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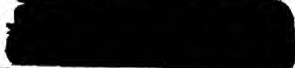
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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
STUDIES IN LIBRARY SCIENCE

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THE GEOGRAPHY OF READING  
A STUDY OF THE DISTRIBUTION  
AND STATUS OF LIBRARIES  
IN THE UNITED STATES

YASUJI UEDA  
YUO KAGAN  
ON

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
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# THE GEOGRAPHY OF READING

A STUDY OF THE DISTRIBUTION  
AND STATUS OF LIBRARIES  
IN THE UNITED STATES



By LOUIS R. WILSON



AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
AND  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
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Aug 12 '38

*To*

MR. AND MRS. JOHN SPRUNT HILL



## PREFACE

THE *Geography of Reading* presents the findings of an extensive survey of the distribution of libraries and library resources in the various states and regions of the nation. It also shows the relation of this distribution to that of bookstores and rental libraries, of magazines and newspapers, and to the status of other social institutions and media of communication of ideas such as the school, the moving picture theater, and the radio.

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LOUIS R. WILSON

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

October 1, 1937

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## INTRODUCTION

TO AMERICANS individually and collectively the great depression of the early 1930's was a stern schoolmaster. It set every thoughtful citizen to taking inventory of the institutions which society has provided for promoting the social good and to restudying them in order to increase their social significance. Criticism and modification of the school, of the college, and of the university have been well-nigh universal. Government, likewise, has been subjected at all levels to a scrutiny and reshaping such as it has probably never undergone before. *Recent Social Trends in the United States*, by the President's Research Committee on Social Trends; *The Higher Learning in America*, by Robert Maynard Hutchins; *Administrative Management in the Government of the United States*, by the President's Committee on Administrative Management; the present studies by the Regents of the University of the State of New York on the character and cost of public education, and of the President's Advisory Committee on Education on the relation of the federal government to education, all bear testimony to this universal checking and rechecking of agencies which serve society. The times have been decidedly out of joint, and people have sought to know why they have been so in order that similar periods of profound dislocation may be avoided and that the future social order may be more stable and satisfying.

The American public library, established midway in the nineteenth century in response to an urgent social need, has been included in this general stocktaking. From 1929 through 1934 several million Americans who had not made use of its services previously turned to it for aid. Through it, they sought reorientation for new activities and inspiration for the future, or release from the pressing burdens of the hour. Other millions used it as they had in the past as one of America's basic instrumen-

talities for providing equalization of educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities in a democracy. Taxpayers sought to determine the value of its services to society in comparison with that of other public services; the American Library Association restated its general and specific objectives; and state library associations and individual libraries undertook to extend its service to larger numbers and to increase its effectiveness everywhere.

#### PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

*The Geography of Reading* has grown out of this general scrutiny of the public library as a distinctly American social institution which contributes to the conservation and extension of human resources. It is concerned primarily with the distribution of libraries in the United States and with problems associated with their use, support, and social significance. It is intended to answer, or to suggest the answers to the five questions: (1) What is the extent of inequality in access to libraries and library resources among the states and regions of the United States? (2) What relation does this inequality bear to variation in the distribution of social, educational, and cultural institutions and media for the communication of ideas in America? (3) Why does this disparity exist? (4) What is its significance? (5) What can be done to increase library resources where they are comparatively slight or do not exist at all.

Stated somewhat differently, the study is intended (1) to indicate by tables, maps, and regional summaries, the distribution of libraries; (2) to compare this distribution with that of other institutions, organizations, and media which may be thought of as bearing a more or less direct relationship to the status of library development; (3) to discover, if possible, the causes which have brought about inequalities in the distribution of libraries; (4) to consider the significance of the results growing out of the existing inequalities; and (5) to suggest means which may be employed to effect greater equalization of library resources throughout the nation. The subject matter

is presented in four parts. Parts I, II, and III are devoted to answering questions one to three. Part IV suggests answers to questions four and five and presents a series of conclusions and recommendations growing out of the study as a whole.

The publication is also intended to serve other, though less specific, purposes. On the basis of the information presented in the tables, maps, and summaries, librarians, educators, publishers, and others engaged in the general task of disseminating ideas through print may be able to view their individual activities more realistically and to plan their future development with increased prospect of success. It should also be possible for the student of library development to use the material, supplemented by data from local sources, in the preparation of other studies which deal more intimately with the library facilities of a specific region, state, county, or smaller library service area. The various tables concerning the forty-eight states, for example, can be used for this purpose. It will be a simple matter to determine the status of each state concerning any given particular, such as expenditure for public library purposes, by checking its standing against the average for the nation and against the individual states which rank highest and lowest, respectively; and relationships between the various indices of wealth, urbanization, educational status, etc., and that of library development may be determined statistically.

#### LIMITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

One important limitation of the study should be emphasized. It deals with the distribution of library facilities as they now exist. The history of the American public library movement, the causes which brought the library into being, the philosophy upon which it rests, its social significance as a public institution, the justification of its present and future support, however interesting and important, are dealt with only cursorily and are left for extensive treatment by others at another time.

The title, *The Geography of Reading*, calls for some explanation. A glance at the content of the volume will show that it is

not a geography, although certain aspects of geography have unquestionably influenced the distribution of reading facilities. Neither is it concerned with many of the aspects of reading with which the public usually associates the term. It is concerned with the geographical or spatial distribution of libraries, book-stores, magazines, newspapers, etc.; and maps are extensively used to present graphically the data concerning this distribution. They are also employed in those chapters which are devoted to educational, economic, and other social factors which have influenced library development in the United States. In this way it is hoped that a better understanding may be reached concerning the status of the library as an institution devoted to the promotion of reading, which contributes to the formation of the cultural pattern of American life.

#### SOURCES OF DATA

Some comment should also be made concerning the sources from which the basic data have been secured and the methods used in reducing the materials to a basis on which they may be readily compared.

As will be seen from the tables and maps, the data have been drawn from a wide variety of sources. The task of preparing the volume has consequently been greatly increased, and its value has been somewhat lessened, because no single organization or office has recently been charged with the responsibility of collecting, on a nation-wide basis, information concerning all types of libraries. The American Library Association has prepared two nation-wide summaries for public libraries. These were published in 1926 and 1935, respectively. The U.S. Office of Education has published statistics of school, college, public, and other kinds of libraries at various intervals since 1870. But its latest compilation is for 1929, and is characterized, as are its predecessors, by incompleteness of returns, owing to the failure of many libraries to fill out the appropriate schedules. The data prepared by state library extension agencies, in those states in which such agencies exist, have been collected on various bases

and for that reason are generally not susceptible of satisfactory comparison. And because of the lack of funds, in recent years some of the annual summaries thus prepared have not been published. Now that the Library Service Division in the U.S. Office of Education has been established, and funds appropriated for its maintenance, a unified program of collection and publication of these important data seems assured. It should also be noted that many of the tables are based on data for different years. Later data could not be secured in many instances, and the majority of the tables were prepared in 1934 and 1935 when aid from federal sources was available.

#### METHODS OF PRESENTATION

In presenting the data in the study a more or less definite pattern has been followed. First, a table showing the status of each state in order of rank with respect to the data under consideration is shown. In general, the table presents the total for each state, the data per unit of population, and the standard score of each state.

Second, the per capita data are presented in map form. The status of each state is shown by shading. The states are divided into five groups, which are hereinafter referred to as intervals, according to their status with respect to the data under consideration. The states in the highest interval are shaded black, those in the second interval with cross-hatching, those in the third interval with diagonals, those in the fourth interval with dots, and those in the lowest interval are white. The various maps based on per capita data are only roughly comparable.

Third, the data are summarized by region in graphic form. For this purpose the six regions defined by Mr. Odum in his *Southern Regions of the United States* have been used. The boundaries of these regions and the states which compose them are shown in Figure 3 and Table 3. These regional groups have been arrived at on the bases of approximately seven hundred indices of population, wealth, occupation, education, natural resources, etc., against which each state was checked. The al-

location of several states to certain regions may appear somewhat unusual, as, for example, the placing of West Virginia in the Northeast rather than in the Southeast. But when checked against the entire list of indices, the state was found to have more characteristics common to the Northeast than to the Southeast with which it has frequently been associated. The use of this grouping rather than that of the U.S. Census Bureau has been employed because it reduces the number of regions from nine to six and seemingly makes somewhat sharper and more significant the comparisons among what are recognized as major regions. The grouping of New England with the Middle Atlantic states and West Virginia presents New England somewhat out of character, but it brings the longer settled industrial Northeast into one general region, as contrasted with the major regions in southern, middle, and western America.

Fourth, the distribution of data concerning libraries among the counties of a more or less typical state is likewise presented in tabular and map form in order to show differences in library development which are to be found in smaller political units. Data for the state of Illinois are used in this way.

The use of per capita data involves a certain amount of difficulty in interpretation. A statement to the effect that 60 per cent of the population of Minnesota reside in areas served by public libraries gives no clue to the fact that if three counties, Hennepin, Ransey, and St. Louis are excluded, only 31 per cent of the residents of the remaining eighty-four counties are served. Thus, it must be recognized that the figure for a state is a somewhat crude generalization.

The population of the entire state has, in general, been used as the basis of per capita<sup>1</sup> figures, rather than the population of only the areas served. It was desired that the figures be representative of the relative status of the various states *as a whole*, rather than of only the areas served in the several states.

<sup>1</sup> The term, per capita, is here used loosely to indicate "per unit of population," that is, per capita, per hundred, per thousand, etc. In some cases some other base than population, for example, number of families, has been used.

The per capita data have been translated into standard scores in order to render the various tables comparable. While the rank of a given state on two tables would provide a roughly comparable figure, the standard score, since it is an abstract index number based upon the average and the variability of all forty-eight states, furnishes a much more accurately comparable figure. The standard score of a given state may be defined as the deviation of that state from the average of the forty-eight states, expressed in units of standard deviation. The standard deviation is a measure of the average variability of the forty-eight states, that is, of their average deviation from the mean.

On each United States table two average measures for the United States will be found, namely, the mean per capita figure for the United States as a whole and the mean for the forty-eight states. It will be noticed that the two are frequently quite different, which is reasonable in that they have different meanings. The former may be said to represent the status of the average citizen of the United States, the latter, the status of *the average citizen of the average state*. In the former, each citizen of New York bears equal weight with each citizen of Nevada in determining the average. In the latter, Nevada counts as heavily as New York, and consequently each citizen of Nevada is given a weight nearly 140 times as great as each citizen of New York.

Per capita figures have been based largely upon 1930 census data. Data for the late twenties, as well as for the early thirties, have been adjusted to 1930 population.

#### PATTERN OF LIBRARY DISTRIBUTION

In handling the extensive statistical material treated in the study, every effort has been made to utilize the best sources and to avoid error. To avoid repetition, bibliographic information contained in footnotes in the text has not been given in full in the footnotes to tabular matter, but a brief form of citation has been preferred. That some errors have been made, in spite of constant checking and rechecking, is almost inevitable. It is



also inevitable that in some instances different interpreters of the data will arrive at conclusions different from those reached by the author. It is hoped, however, that in spite of these limitations, the study may reveal clearly the variation which exists in the distribution, support, and use of libraries in the various states and regions of the United States, that it may show what causes have produced the variation, and that it may suggest ways and means by which the library, now so unevenly developed throughout the nation, may be enabled to contribute more effectively to the educational and cultural life of every part of America.

PART I  
LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT



## CHAPTER I

### ACCESSIBILITY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

HOW accessible are libraries and books to the American public? To answer this question is the purpose of Part I of the present survey. Information is presented in this division of the study concerning the distribution in the various states and regions of the United States of all libraries—school, college, university, public, special, and other types—together with a discussion of their use, support, and general accessibility to the public. Chapter i deals specifically with the public library.

This institution in America, free to the public, and supported wholly or in part by public funds, dates back more than a century. Though its history and the causes which brought it into being are not considered in this chapter, it is important to recall that the public library movement began to assume definite form in the 1850's; that it contributed to the founding of the American Library Association in 1876; that it experienced great expansion during the period 1890-1920; and that, today, the public library is recognized as a distinct contribution which America has made to library development throughout the world. The public library has assumed a fixed place in the pattern of American life; it is at once a symbol of democracy and an effective educational agency for its promotion.

#### POPULATION TO WHICH LIBRARY SERVICE IS ACCESSIBLE

The data which appear in this chapter concerning the present accessibility of public library service to different states and regions of the country as a whole are derived principally from the publications and files of the American Library Association and of the U.S. Office of Education. The former has issued two

compilations, *Library Extension*, in 1926<sup>1</sup> and "Public Library Statistics," in 1935;<sup>2</sup> and the latter, at various intervals since 1870, has issued statistics concerning many types of libraries, including public libraries.<sup>3</sup> The latest compilation is for 1929.

TABLE 1\*  
POPULATION SERVED BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1926 AND 1935

YEAR	TOTAL POPULATION	PUBLIC LIBRA- RIES	POPULATION WITHOUT LIBRARIES		POPULATION WITH LIBRARIES	
			Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
1926. . . . .	105,710,620	5,954	45,069,897	43	60,640,723	57
1935. . . . .	122,775,046	6,235	45,130,098	37	77,644,948	63
Increase . .	17,064,426	281	60,201	-6	17,004,225	6

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 253-55; A. L. A., Com. on Lib. Ext., *Library Extension* (Chic. A. L. A., 1926), pp. 123, 127; U.S. Census, 1930, *Population*, I, 14.

From the various tables, maps, and regional summaries presented in this chapter, a number of important facts concerning

<sup>1</sup> American Library Association, Committee on Library Extension, *Library Extension: A Study of Public Library Conditions and Needs* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1926).

<sup>2</sup> "Public Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXIX (1935), 252-55, 443.

<sup>3</sup> There have been thirteen special collections of statistics of libraries made between 1870 and 1929 by the U.S. Bureau of Education (since 1929, the U.S. Office of Education). The first of these appeared in the *Report of the Commissioner of Education*, and later ones have usually appeared under the title of *Statistics*. Their chronological order is as follows:

(a) *Report of the Commissioner of Education for the year 1870; 1872; 1875; 1884-85; 1886-87* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1870; 1873; 1886; 1888); (b) *Statistics of Public Libraries in the United States and Canada: 1891*, by Weston Flint. Circular of Information No. 7, 1893 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1893); (c) *Report of the Commissioner of Education for the Year 1895-96; 1899-1900; 1903* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1897; 1901; 1905); (d) *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1908; 1915; 1923; 1929* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1909; 1915; 1926; 1931).

The special compilations issued in 1876 (for 1875) and in 1905 (for 1903) included material other than that regularly appearing in the usual reports. The first of these, *Public Libraries in the United States of America* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1876), is particularly notable.

TABLE 2\*

PER CENT OF POPULATION OF EACH STATE RESIDING IN LOCAL  
PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICTS, 1934

STATE	RANK	POPULATION WITH LIBRARY SERVICE		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Cent	
Delaware . . . . .	1	238,380	100 0	1 60
Massachusetts . . . . .	1	4,249,614	100.0	1 60
New Hampshire . . . . .	3	463,549	99.6	1 58
Connecticut . . . . .	4	1,593,128	99.1	1 56
California . . . . .	5	5,568,344	98 0	1 52
Rhode Island . . . . .	6	662,545	96 0	1 44
Wyoming . . . . .	6	217,309	96 0	1 44
New Jersey . . . . .	8	3,843,535	95.0	1 40
Vermont . . . . .	9	333,520	93.0	1 32
Ohio . . . . .	9	6,178,808	93.0	1 32
New York . . . . .	11	11,011,019	87.0	1 09
Maryland . . . . .	12	1,298,923	80 0	0 82
Michigan . . . . .	13	3,661,430	76 0	0 66
Illinois . . . . .	14	5,688,440	75 0	0 62
Maine . . . . .	15	589,361	74 0	0 58
Indiana . . . . .	16	2,354,618	73 0	0 55
Oregon . . . . .	17	669,610	70 0	0 43
Wisconsin . . . . .	17	2,048,001	70 0	0 43
Nevada . . . . .	19	60,714	67 0	0 31
Utah . . . . .	19	340,596	67 0	0 31
Arizona . . . . .	21	279,451	64 0	0 20
Minnesota . . . . .	22	1,536,982	60 0	0 04
Washington . . . . .	23	928,743	59 0	0 00
Colorado . . . . .	24	579,487	56.0	-0 12
Pennsylvania . . . . .	25	5,274,828	55 0	-0 15
Montana . . . . .	26	273,922	51.0	-0 31
Missouri . . . . .	27	1,821,289	50.0	-0 35
Nebraska . . . . .	27	684,132	50.0	-0 35
Iowa . . . . .	29	1,178,668	48.0	-0 43
Kansas . . . . .	30	884,812	47 0	-0 47
North Carolina . . . . .	31	1,425,416	45 0	-0 54
Tennessee . . . . .	32	1,086,397	42 0	-0 66
Florida . . . . .	33	582,579	40.0	-0 74
South Carolina . . . . .	33	688,757	40 0	-0 74

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 252-53.

Mean per cent of population with service (based on per cents of the 48 states), 59.0; standard deviation, 25.72; U.S. total, 77,644,948; U.S. per cent of population (including District of Columbia), with service, 63.24.

Terms in this and subsequent tables may be defined as follows: (a) *mean*, the simple arithmetic average; (b) *median*, the midpoint of a series of measures ranked in the order of their magnitude, (c) *standard score*, an index number used to facilitate the comparison of measures on dissimilar scales, as per cent of population living in library service areas with the per capita wealth; (d) *standard deviation*, a measure of variability, the square root of the mean of the squares of the individual deviations from the arithmetic mean of the group.

Totals are for the whole of the United States, including the District of Columbia, means, medians, standard scores, and standard deviations are usually based on the forty-eight states, not including the District of Columbia. The District of Columbia has been omitted in these instances because of its atypical nature, particularly with respect to library facilities in relation to population.

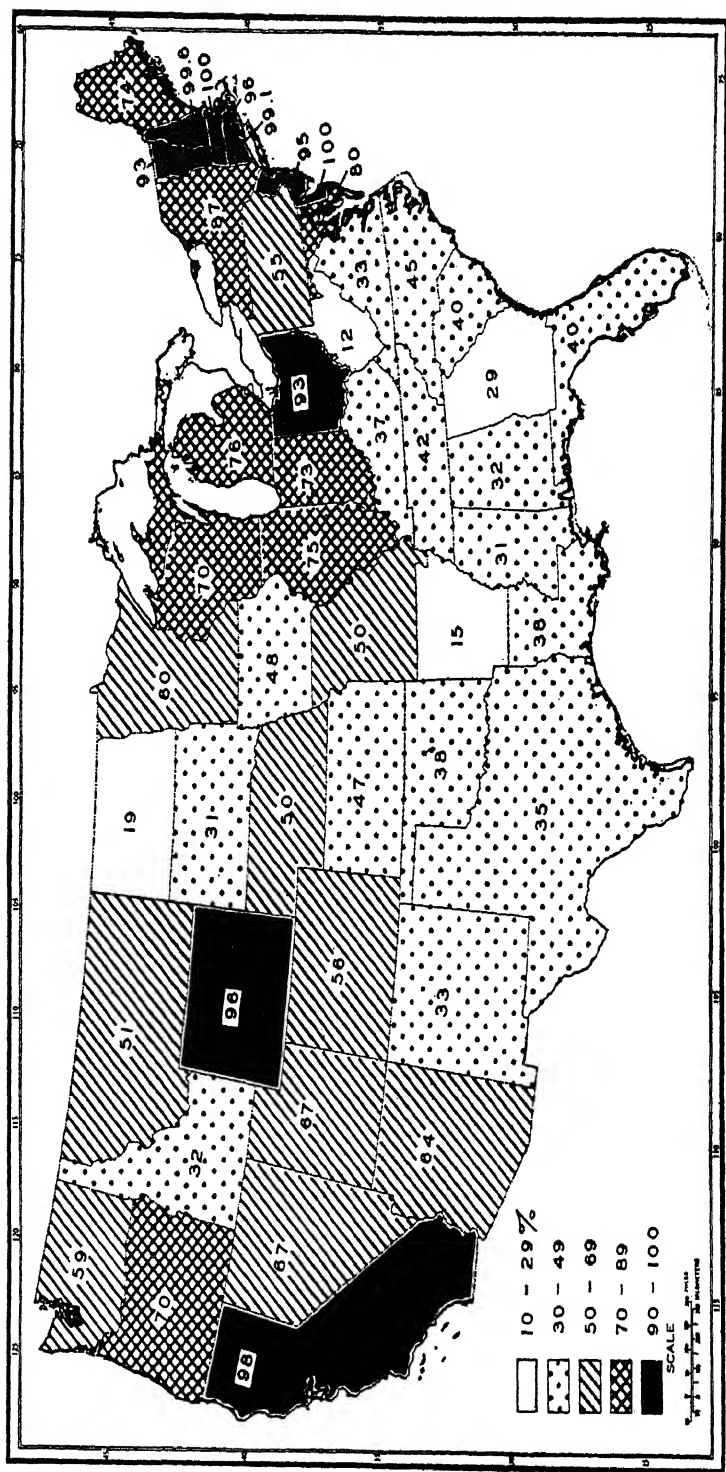
TABLE 2—*Continued*

STATE	RANK	POPULATION WITH LIBRARY SERVICE		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Cent	
Oklahoma . . . . .	35	813,681	38 0	-0 82
Louisiana . . . . .	35	803,292	38.0	-0 82
Kentucky . . . . .	37	977,477	37 0	-0 85
Texas . . . . .	38	2,035,719	35 0	-0.93
New Mexico . . . . .	39	140,847	33 0	-1 01
Virginia . . . . .	39	807,704	33 0	-1.01
Idaho . . . . .	41	139,597	32.0	-1 05
Alabama . . . . .	41	855,510	32 0	-1 05
South Dakota . . . .	43	211,865	31 0	-1 09
Mississippi . . . . .	43	632,428	31.0	-1 09
Georgia . . . . .	45	828,713	29 0	-1.17
North Dakota . . . .	46	128,027	19 0	-1 55
Arkansas . . . . .	47	281,661	15 0	-1 71
West Virginia . . . .	48	204,651	12 0	-1 83

the distribution of public libraries in the United States begin to emerge. The first of these is that, of the 122,775,046 inhabitants of the United States, 77,644,948, or 63 per cent, lived in areas served by 6,235 public libraries in 1935. After a century of public library development, approximately three out of every five Americans live in areas in which free public library service is available; and, on the contrary, 45,130,098, or 37 per cent of the population, live in areas in which public library service is not available. Tables 1 and 2 and Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 show the details of this situation.

A second group of significant facts concerning the distribution of public library facilities comes into view if the analysis of the data is carried farther. These facts relate to differences in regard to accessibility which exist: (1) between states, (2) between regions, (3) between states within regions, (4) between counties within a state, and (5) within counties and individual cities.

Table 2 and Figures 1 and 2 reveal differences between states in the percentages of population which live within areas with





public library service. The range is from a low 12 per cent in West Virginia to complete coverage, or 100 per cent, in Massachusetts and Delaware. For several decades Massachusetts has had the distinction of providing service for all its citizens through city and town libraries. Rhode Island was reported in 1926 to have shared this distinction, but in the summary for 1935 it is listed as having 4 per cent of its population living outside service areas. Delaware has taken its place by providing service for all the residents of its three counties through various public libraries at Wilmington, Dover, and other cities, through

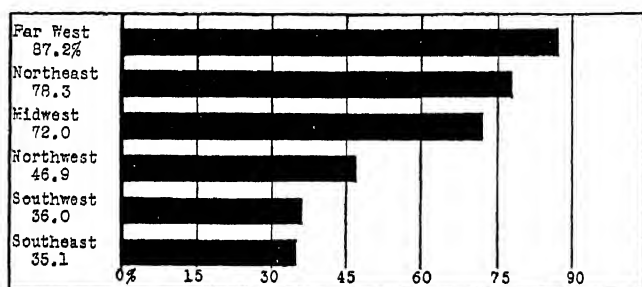


FIG. 2.—Regional summary of per cent of population of each state residing in local public library districts, 1934.

the New Castle County Library at Wilmington, and through the State Library Commission, which maintains service similar to county library service for residents of Kent and Sussex counties. As has already been shown, 63 per cent of the population of the United States live within service areas, though it must not be assumed that this 63 per cent of the people make actual use of libraries.

#### VARIATION AMONG REGIONS

The range in variation among states, as has been shown above, is wide. Great heterogeneity is necessarily the rule in a country as large as this, and in the effort to measure variations among states, the state, itself, does not prove to be as exact a yardstick as is desired. For more accurate comparisons, or for comparisons among regions—which may be composed of

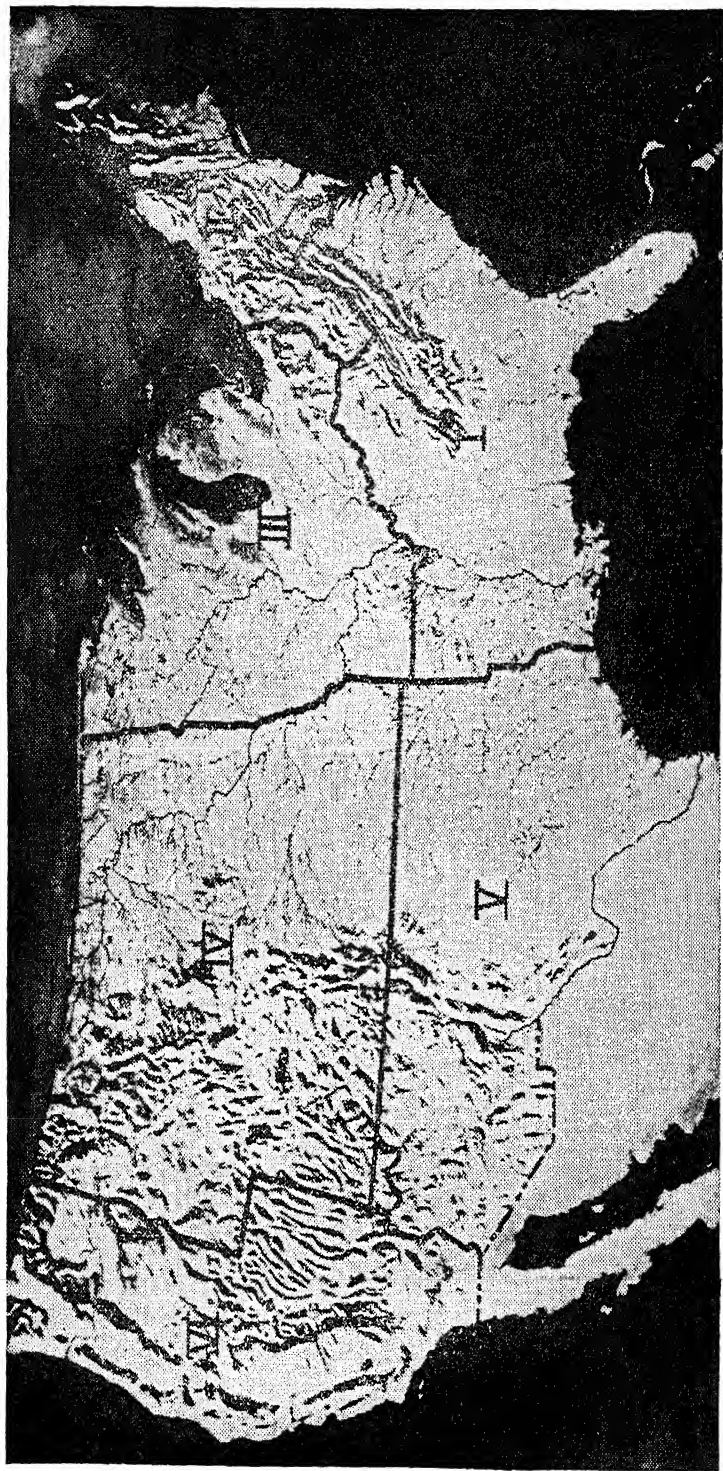


FIG. 3.—The six regions of the United States. Source: H. W. Odum, *Southern Regions of the United States* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1936), p. 6.

states having considerable homogeneity among themselves—two additional yardsticks are used, the region and the county. The six regional divisions of the country, as developed by Mr. Odum in his study, *Southern Regions of the United States*,<sup>4</sup> provide an excellent means of graphically depicting, through regional summaries, the significant differences in library coverage. Figure 3 shows the outlines of these six regions.

The variations found in the per cent of population living in public library service areas are summarized in Figure 2, which thus manifests, by regions, the data which appear, by state, in Table 2. It shows, for example, that, in the region designated as the Far West, 87.2 per cent of the population reside in areas served by local public libraries; in the Northeast, 78.3 per cent of the population reside in public library areas, etc. In the eleven states comprising the Southeast, only 35.1 per cent of the total population live in areas with local public libraries of any kind. This very low percentage in a single region accounts in part, as is pointed out later in this chapter, for the lag which has occurred since 1926 between increase in population served and increase in population in the nation at large. But variation among the states which compose the Southeast is also found. The range is from 15 per cent in Arkansas to 45 per cent in North Carolina.

#### VARIATIONS AMONG COUNTIES WITHIN STATES

If the analysis is carried farther to include counties within a state, as it has been in Figure 4 (Location of public libraries in Illinois) and Figure 5 (Per cent of population residing in public library districts, by county, in Illinois), further variations are seen. In Illinois, when the whole state is taken as the unit, approximately 75 per cent of the total population has

<sup>4</sup> H. W. Odum, *Southern Regions of the United States* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1936), p. 6. These six regions into which the country is divided have been determined by the use of several hundred indices of population, wealth, educational status, etc., against which each state has been checked. The groupings have been obtained by placing within the different regions those states which showed a high degree of similarity and homogeneity upon the basis of the checkings.

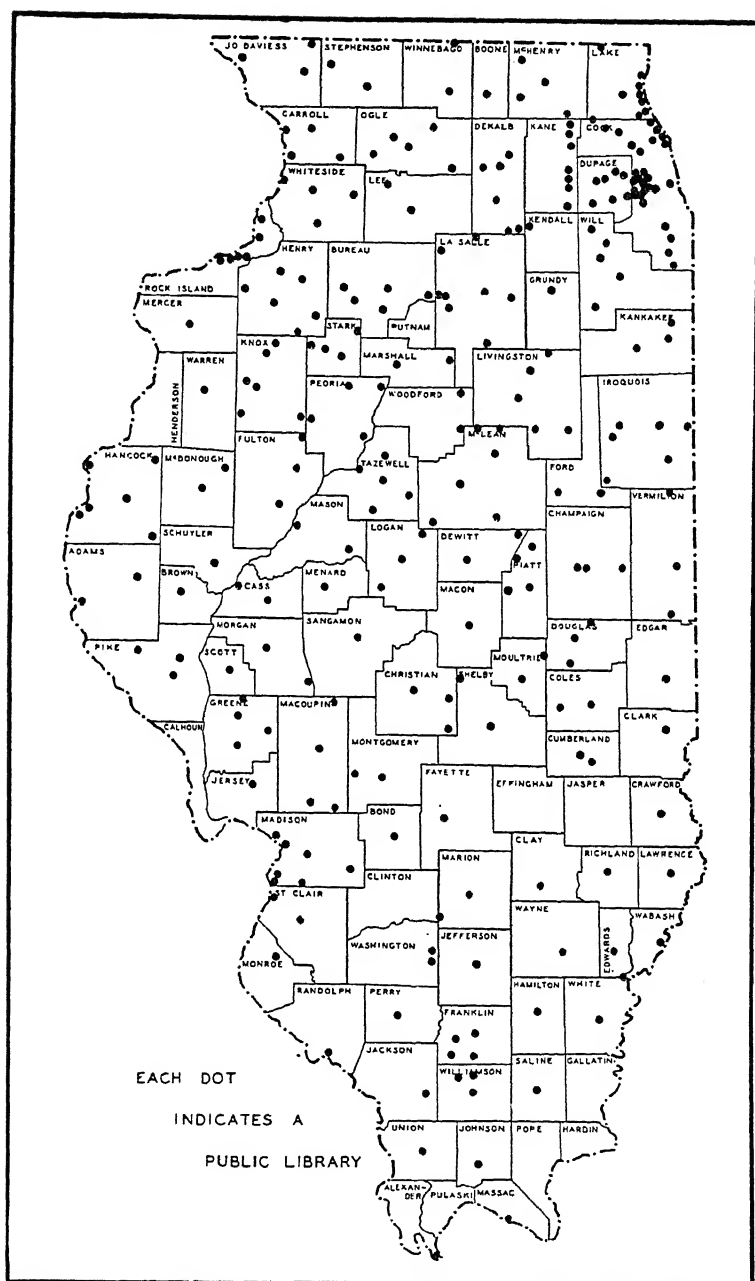


FIG. 4.—Location of public libraries in Illinois. Source: Compiled from Illinois State Library, Library Extension Division, *Report for January 1, 1932 to December 31, 1933* (Springfield, State of Illinois, 1934), pp. 21–25.

In 1933 the 7,630,654 inhabitants of Illinois were served by 667 public and 10 endowed libraries in 93 counties. The libraries contained 6,429,272 volumes, spent \$2,784,699 for library support, and circulated 31,444,867 volumes. Twenty-one per cent of the population were library registrants.



TABLE 3\*

## THE SIX REGIONS OF THE UNITED STATES

Region	Population	Region	Population
I Southeast .	25,550,898	IV Northwest . . . .	7,384,497
Alabama	2,646,248	Colorado . . . . .	1,035,791
Arkansas	1,854,482	Idaho . . . . .	445,032
Florida .	1,468,211	Kansas . . . . .	1,880,999
Georgia.	2,908,506	Montana . . . . .	537,606
Kentucky .	2,614,589	Nebraska . . . . .	1,377,963
Louisiana . .	2,101,593	North Dakota . . .	680,845
Mississippi . .	2,009,821	South Dakota . . .	692,849
North Carolina.	3,170,276	Utah. . . . .	507,847
South Carolina .	1,738,765	Wyoming . . . . .	225,565
Tennessee . .	2,616,556		
Virginia . . .	2,421,851		
II Northeast . . .	38,026,202	V Southwest . . . .	9,079,645
Connecticut.	1,606,903	Arizona . . . . .	435,573
Delaware . . .	238,380	New Mexico . . . .	423,317
Maine.	797,423	Oklahoma . . . . .	2,396,040
Maryland . . .	1,631,526	Texas . . . . .	5,824,715
Massachusetts .	4,249,614		
New Hampshire .	465,293		
New Jersey . . .	4,041,334		
New York . . .	12,588,066		
Pennsylvania . .	9,631,350		
Rhode Island . .	687,497		
Vermont. . . .	359,611		
West Virginia . .	1,729,205		
III Midwest . . . .	33,961,444	VI Far West . . . . .	8,285,491
Illinois . . . .	7,630,654	California . . . . .	5,677,251
Indiana . . . .	3,238,503	Nevada . . . . .	91,058
Iowa . . . . .	2,470,939	Oregon . . . . .	953,786
Michigan . . . .	4,842,325	Washington . . . . .	1,563,396
Minnesota . . .	2,563,953		
Missouri . . . .	3,629,367		
Ohio . . . . .	6,646,697		
Wisconsin. . . .	2,939,006		

\* Source H. W. Odum, *Southern Regions of the United States* (Chapel Hill: U. of N. C. Press, 1936), p. 6; *U.S. Census, 1930, Population*, I, 10.  
 U.S. total (48 states), 122,288,177, U.S. total (including District of Columbia), 122,775,046.

access to local public libraries. But if Cook County (containing Chicago) is excluded, the per cent of the population served in the other 101 counties drops to 50; and if nine Illinois counties (including Cook), each with a population of over 100,000, are excluded, the per cent of the population served in the remaining 93 counties drops even lower, to 43.2. In nine counties in which there are no public libraries, the per cent drops to zero. In only one county, Warren, is the entire population served by a county library.

#### VARIATION WITHIN COUNTIES

Figure 6 (Map of Westchester County, New York)<sup>5</sup> illustrates the same principle of variation when the analysis is carried into different communities within a county. Although Westchester County contains thirty-one public libraries, approximately 58,000 of its 520,947 inhabitants live in areas unserved by any of them. In this respect, Westchester follows a pattern of library development which has generally prevailed throughout the country. Cities, trade centers, and county seats have tended to establish libraries and they have limited their services, except upon payment of special fees, to residents within the boundaries thus incorporated. The city, rather than the county, has been the unit in providing library service; although in Massachusetts the town has been the unit, and in California, Indiana, New Jersey, Wyoming, and to a less degree in other states, service has been provided on a county-wide basis. In all of these instances the service is provided through a central library and branches, subbranches, and stations, distributed in such way within the political unit as to reach advantageously the greatest number of patrons. The total number of such agencies for 493 cities, which reported to the American Library Association in 1935, ranged from an average of 2.9 for cities of

<sup>5</sup> E. A. Wight and Leon Carnovsky, *Library Service in a Suburban Area* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1936), p. 38.

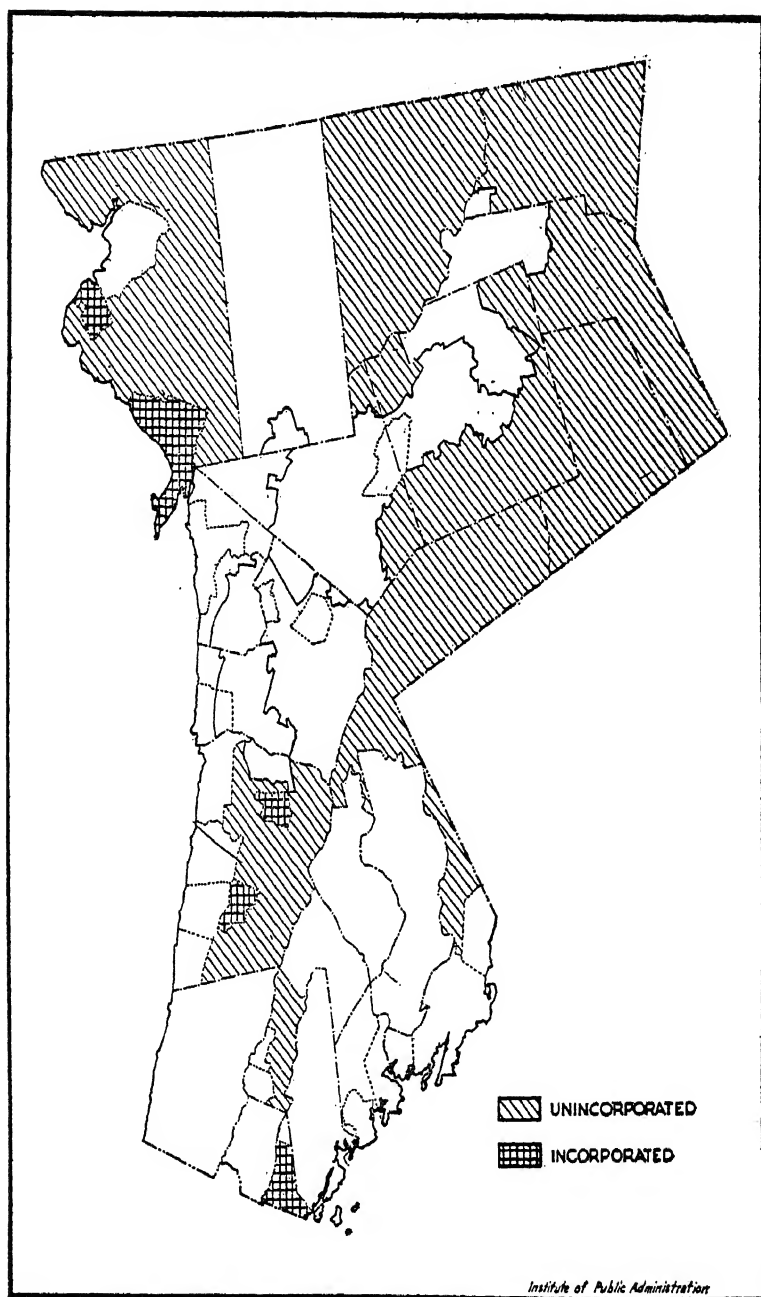


FIG. 6.—Map of Westchester County, New York, showing areas which contribute no public funds to public libraries. (Unshaded areas contribute to library support.) Source: E. A. Wight and Leon Carnovsky, *Library Service in a Suburban Area* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1936), p. 38. (Used through courtesy of American Library Association.)



from 2,500 to 5,000 population, to 252.7 for cities of 500,000 and over.<sup>6</sup>

Mr. Joeckel, in considering both the variation in distribution of public library facilities and the general character of service on a county basis, concludes that service is provided on a 10:50:40 ratio. He finds that approximately 10 per cent (metropolitan or near-metropolitan) of the counties in the United States have what the American public has come to con-

TABLE 4\*  
DISTRIBUTION OF LIBRARY SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES  
(A Tabulation by Counties)

COUNTIES		LIBRARY SERVICE		
Type	Number	Nearly Complete Service	Partial Service	No Libraries
Metropolitan districts . . . . .	175	77 (45)†	96	2
Urban-rural—over 25,000 . . . . .	799	108 (84)	552	139
Urban-rural—under 25,000 . . . . .	690	50 (44)	461	179
Rural—over 10,000 . . . . .	743	19 (15)	273	451
Rural—under 10,000 . . . . .	667	45 (41)	176	446
Total . . . . .	3,074	299 (229)	1,558	1,217

\* Source. C. B. Joeckel, "Realities of Regionalism," L. R. Wilson, ed., *Library Trends* (Chic. U. of C. Press, 1937), p. 70.

† Figures in parentheses show number of county libraries with incomes of over \$1,000.

sider as approximately complete library service; 50 per cent (largely urban) have some service, ranging from very incomplete to fairly complete; and 40 per cent, or two counties out of five (largely rural), have no service through public libraries.<sup>7</sup> Table 4 gives the number of counties and number of libraries in the different categories, and it furnishes additional evidence of the variability of library accessibility. Variation in accessibility is also to be noted in cities—depending upon the degree

<sup>6</sup> U.S. National Resources Committee, Research Committee on Urbanism, "A Survey on Recreation" (MS in preparation).

<sup>7</sup> C. B. Joeckel, "Realities of Regionalism," L. R. Wilson, ed., *Library Trends* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1937), p. 70.

to which branches and stations are available. The limiting effect of distance on circulation has long been recognized, and libraries have constantly striven to overcome it by multiplying easily accessible outlets.

#### LAG BETWEEN INCREASE IN POPULATION AND LIBRARY ACCESSIBILITY

The preceding discussion has been devoted to the consideration of the variation in accessibility of library service for the nation as a whole, down through individual regions, states, counties, and cities. It has dealt with variations in library coverage.

A further very important aspect of this general discussion may now be presented. The extension of public library service between 1926 and 1935 did not keep pace with the increase in population for the same period. The total population increased from 105,710,620 in 1920 to 122,775,046 in 1930. The number of people living in library service areas increased from 60,640,723 (57 per cent of the total population in 1926) to 77,644,948 (63 per cent of the total population in 1935). While this was a gain of 17,004,225 people in areas with libraries, it failed by 60,201 to equal the increase in total population. The number of persons living in unserved areas was consequently increased by this amount. The lag was not great, but it was nonetheless a lag in so far as the two sets of figures are comparable. Table 5 shows the increases, or decreases, by states, in total population and in population without library service.

Twenty-four states, distributed throughout the entire country, contributed to the lag by adding to the number of citizens for whom no service was provided. Twenty-three states tended to cancel the addition by providing service in excess of increases in population, and one state maintained its status unchanged by reason of the fact that all of its population lived within service areas in 1926 and 1935. Several contrasts, however, in the differences between states are so striking that they may be mentioned. Pennsylvania added 911,333 to its popula-

TABLE 5\*

INCREASE OR DECREASE IN TOTAL POPULATION, 1920-30; NUMBER OF PEOPLE  
WITHOUT LIBRARY SERVICE, AND PER CENT OF INCREASE OR  
DECREASE IN PEOPLE WITHOUT SERVICE, 1926-35

STATE	INCREASE OR DECREASE IN POPULATION		INCREASE OR DECREASE OF POPULA- TION WITHOUT LIBRARY SERVICE	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Alabama....	298,074	12 7	84,552	- 4
Arizona .	101,411	30 3	-81,548	-35
Arkansas. .	102,278	5 8	77,750	0
California .	2,250,390	65 7	- 8,028	- 1
Colorado. .	96,162	10 2	10,351	- 3
Connecticut .	226,272	16 4	-18,129	- 1
Delaware... .	15,377	6 9	-91,801	-41
Florida . . . .	499,741	51 6	335,632	4
Georgia . . . .	12,674	0 4	47,492	1
Idaho . . . . .	13,166	3 0	4,326	7
Illinois . . . . .	1,145,374	17 7	-87,762	- 6
Indiana . . . .	308,113	10.5	-12,937	- 3
Iowa... . . . .	66,918	2 8	-207,729	-10
Kansas. . . . .	111,742	6 3	-60,491	- 6
Kentucky... . .	197,959	8 2	25,536	- 3
Louisiana . . .	303,084	16 9	63,452	- 6
Maine... . . . .	29,409	3.8	73,062	9
Maryland. . . .	181,865	12 5	-191,373	-16
Massachusetts .	397,258	10 3	(total coverage)	0
Michigan.....	1,173,913	32 0	84,062	- 5
Minnesota . . . .	176,828	7 4	-53,574	- 5
Mississippi. . . .	219,203	12 2	-104,523	-14
Missouri... . .	225,312	6 6	-78,788	- 5
Montana. . . . .	-11,283	-2.1	-15,614	- 2
Nebraska... . .	81,591	6 3	-15,024	- 4
Nevada... . . .	13,651	17 6	-19,628	-31
New Hampshire .	22,210	5.0	-2,951	- 0
New Jersey.....	885,434	28.1	-128,201	- 5
New Mexico . . .	62,967	17 5	18,644	- 6
New York. . . . .	2,202,839	21.2	327,047	2
North Carolina .	611,153	23.9	-56,745	-13
North Dakota . .	33,973	5 3	32,273	1
Ohio..... . . .	887,303	15 4	-1,328,160	-24
Oklahoma . . . .	367,757	18.1	41,887	-13
Oregon..... . .	170,397	21 8	24,610	- 3
Pennsylvania. . .	911,333	10.5	856,522	4
Rhode Island . .	83,100	13.7	24,952	4
South Carolina..	55,041	3 3	-278,505	-18
South Dakota.. .	56,302	8.8	80,269	- 3
Tennessee... . .	278,671	11 9	-162,698	-14
Texas... . . . .	1,161,487	24 9	471,209	- 5
Utah. . . . .	58,451	13.0	19,360	1
Vermont . . . . .	7,183	2.0	6,452	2
Virginia . . . . .	112,664	4 9	-54,920	- 5
Washington. . . .	206,775	15.2	56,034	- 1
West Virginia... .	265,504	18 1	344,485	8
Wisconsin.....	306,939	11 7	36,977	- 2
Wyoming . . . .	31,163	16.3	-5,606	- 3

\* Source "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 254-55, A. L. A., Com. on Lib. Ext., *op. cit.*, pp. 122-23, 126-27.

tion and 856,522 to those without service. The increase of those without service was due, in part, to the fact that Pennsylvania contains 23 cities with more than 10,000 population and one with over 25,000 without public library service.<sup>8</sup> New York increased its population 2,202,839, and its unserved population 327,027. But California, on account of its almost complete coverage through municipal and county libraries, was able to absorb an increase of 2,250,390 in population and at the same time reduce the number in unserved areas by 8,028. Ohio not only absorbed a population increase of 887,303, but by extending service to rural areas—potential service, probably, rather than actual in all instances—reduced the number of those without service by 1,328,160. This was accomplished by the passage of legislation requiring a public library to extend its privileges to all residents of the county in which it is located. One of the most notable contrasts is that between three states in the Northeast and three in the Southeast. Maine, Vermont, and Rhode Island, though far outranking Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina in number of volumes per capita in public libraries, showed slight increases in the number of inhabitants not served, whereas the three southeastern states showed fairly extensive decreases. The number of inhabitants without library service was actually increased in twenty-four states, although the per cent of inhabitants without such service was increased in only eleven instances. In two others, Arkansas and Massachusetts, the per cents remained unchanged, while in thirty-five, the per cents exhibited an actual decrease.

In the main, however, it might be said that the total increase in population served by libraries from 1926 to 1935 (17,004,225) is only slightly greater than the total increase in urban population from 1920 to 1930 (14,650,220). In the same period rural population increased only 2,414,206. The growth in the number of people with library service, therefore, has been largely determined by the political unit which the library usually serves,

<sup>8</sup> American Library Association, *The Equal Chance* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1936), p. 11.

TABLE 6\*

PER CENT OF RURAL POPULATION OF EACH STATE RESIDING  
IN LOCAL PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICTS, 1934

STATE	RANK	TOTAL RURAL POPULATION	RURAL POPULATION WITH SERVICE		STANDARD SCORE
			Number	Per Cent	
Delaware	1	115,234	115,234	100.00	2 06
Massachusetts	1	418,188	418,188	100 00	2 06
New Hampshire	3	192,214	190,470	99 09	2 04
Connecticut	4	475,133	461,358	97.10	1.97
Wyoming	5	155,468	147,212	94.69	1 90
California	6	1,516,655	1,407,748	92.82	1.84
Vermont	7	240,845	214,754	89.17	1 72
Ohio	8	2,139,326	1,721,055	80.45	1 44
New Jersey	9	702,090	557,079	79.35	1.41
Maryland	10	656,657	370,254	56 38	0.68
Maine	10	475,917	267,855	56 38	0 68
Rhode Island	12	52,068	27,116	52.08	0 54
New York	13	2,066,114	1,020,724	49 40	0.46
Nevada	14	56,594	27,467	48.53	0.43
Arizona	15	285,717	133,623	46.77	0.38
Indiana	16	1,442,611	578,215	40 08	0.16
Oregon	17	464,040	180,641	38 93	0 13
Wisconsin	18	1,385,163	499,536	36.06	0.04
Utah	19	241,583	74,332	30.77	-0 13
North Carolina	20	2,360,429	714,446	30.27	-0.15
Montana	21	356,570	95,689	26.84	-0 26
Mississippi	22	1,670,971	419,922	25.13	-0.31
South Carolina	23	1,367,685	340,407	24 89	-0 32
Minnesota	24	1,306,337	312,331	23.91	-0 35
Michigan	25	1,540,250	359,355	23.33	-0 37
Nebraska	26	891,856	200,221	22 45	-0 40
Pennsylvania	27	3,097,839	685,305	22.12	-0.41
Tennessee	28	1,720,018	288,879	16.80	-0 57
Kentucky	29	1,815,563	295,926	16.30	-0.59
Alabama	30	1,901,975	292,362	15 37	-0.62
South Dakota	31	561,942	80,958	14.41	-0 65
Kansas	32	1,151,165	163,731	14.22	-0 66
Iowa	33	1,491,647	206,307	13 83	-0 67
New Mexico	34	316,501	42,058	13.29	-0.69
Louisiana	35	1,268,061	155,785	12.29	-0 72
Colorado	36	515,909	59,605	11 55	-0 74
Idaho	37	315,525	33,322	10 56	-0 77
Georgia	38	2,013,014	174,556	8.67	-0 83
Virginia	39	1,636,314	124,962	7.64	-0 87
Texas	40	3,435,367	245,117	7.14	-0.88
Washington	41	678,857	44,204	6.51	-0 90
North Dakota	42	567,539	22,894	4 03	-0.98
Missouri	43	1,770,248	70,730	4.00	-0 98
Oklahoma	44	1,574,359	51,684	3.28	-1 00
Illinois	45	1,994,927	60,828	3.05	-1.01
Florida	46	708,433	21,399	3.02	-1.01
Arkansas	47	1,471,604	43,035	2.92	-1.02
West Virginia	48	1,237,701	5,777	0.47	-1.09

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 252-55; rural population from U.S. Census, 1930, *Population*, I, 15.

Mean per cent (based on per cents of the 48 states), 34.92; standard deviation, 31.52; U.S. total, 14,024,656; U.S. per cent, 11.42.

namely, the city. The slight extension of county library service during the period, and the changes effected by legislation in Ohio, largely account for such differences as have occurred.

#### ACCESSIBILITY TO URBAN AND RURAL POPULATIONS

A third type of variation in the accessibility of library service is that which exists between urban and rural populations. Since 1880 the United States has rapidly changed from a rural to an urban nation. In that year only 14,000,000 people, or 29 per cent of the total population, lived in cities. In 1930, 69,000,000 or 56.2 per cent, lived in cities, with 54,753,645, or 44.5 per cent, living in 96 metropolitan districts. Table 6 and Figures 7 and 8 present information concerning the accessibility of library service to rural populations. Here, again, there are wide differences in accessibility. Massachusetts and Delaware provide service for their entire populations, both urban and rural. Arkansas, with only 2.92 per cent of its rural population living in service areas, stands at the opposite extreme. The mean for the forty-eight states is 34.92 per cent.

Between 1926 and 1933 the number of cities of 5,000, or more, population not having library service increased—largely through normal population growth—from 179 to 233. Of the more than 4,000,000 inhabitants of Pennsylvania living in areas unserved by libraries, approximately 2,000,000 were in places having populations of 2,500, or more. Not only was there an increase in the number of cities of 5,000 population, or more, without service, but the total number of urban population without libraries increased from 2,917,597 to 5,456,881, a gain of from 5.4 to 7.9 per cent. At the same time, rural population without service dropped from 42,151,291 to 39,673,273, or from 82 to 73.7 per cent. Table 7 shows this latter change by regions.

The preceding data, however, do not reveal as clearly as they should the salient facts with which they deal. It is important to observe that of the 45,130,098 people in the United States who are without public library service, 39,673,217, or approximately 88 per cent, live in the open country, or in towns of

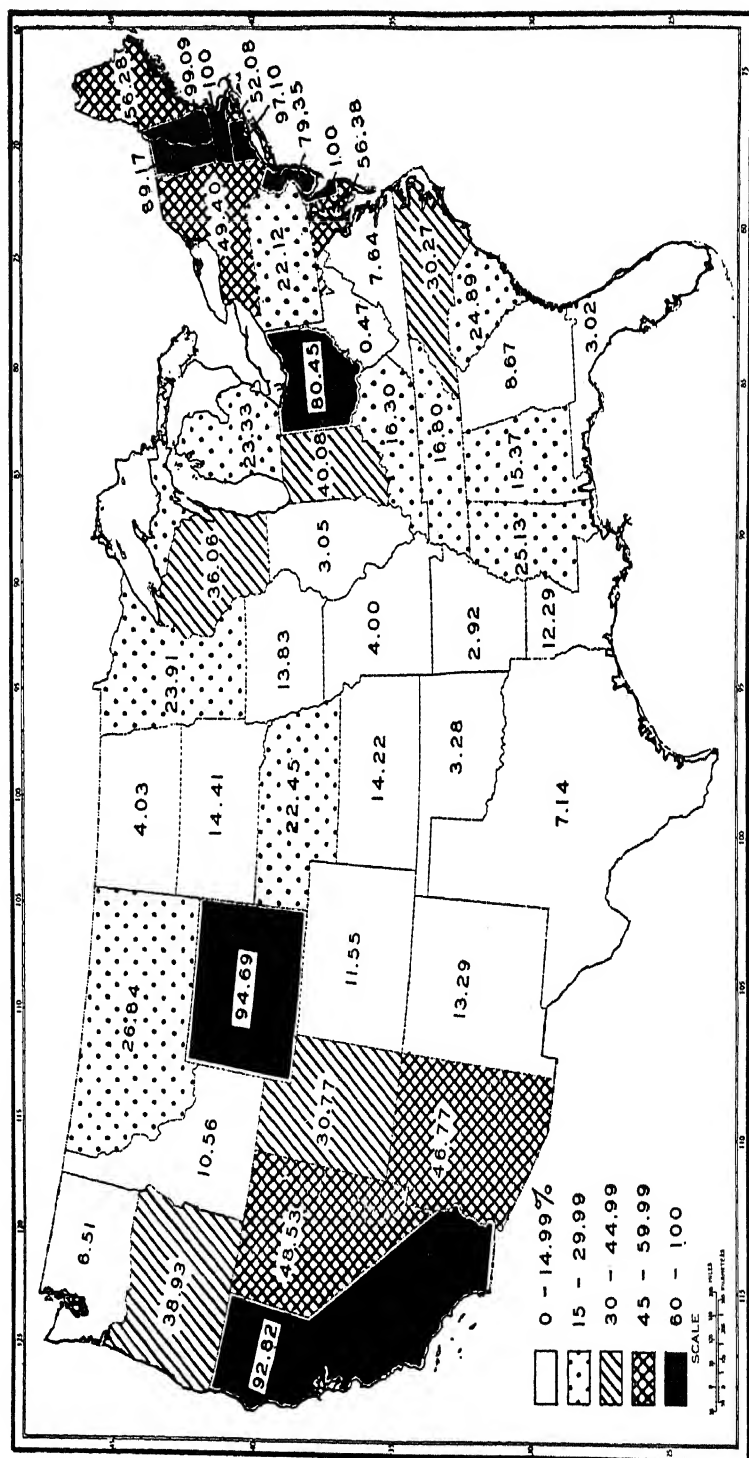


FIG. 7.—Per cent of rural population of each state residing in local public library districts, 1934. Source: Same as for Table 6. (Goode Base Map No. 1110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

less than 2,500 population. This number, as just stated, constitutes 73.7 per cent of the total rural population. Only 5,456,881, or 12 per cent, live in urban areas, and this number is but 7.9 per cent of the total urban population. Here, then, is Amer-

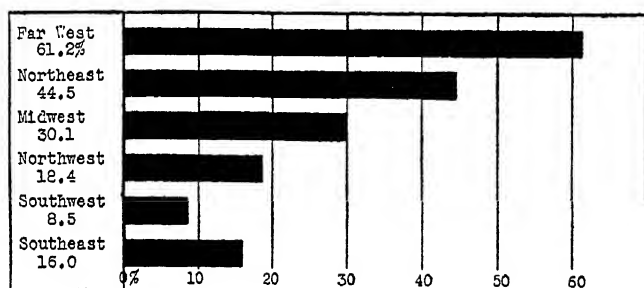


FIG. 8.—Regional summary of per cent of rural population of each state residing in local public library districts, 1934.

TABLE 7\*

PER CENT OF RURAL POPULATION RESIDING IN AREAS SERVED  
BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES, BY REGION, 1926 AND 1935

Region	1926	1935	Increase
Northeast . . . . .	35 9	44 5	8.6
Midwest . . . . .	17 0	30 1	13.1
Southeast . . . . .	8.8	16 0	7 2
Southwest† . . . . .	9 0	8.5	-0.5
Northwest . . . . .	16 6	18 4	1.8
Far West . . . . .	54 0	61 2	7.2

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 252-53; A. L. A., Com. on Lib. Ext., *op. cit.*, pp. 112-23, 126-27.

† Oklahoma omitted from Southwest because of inaccurate data.

ica's greatest library problem, the problem of providing effective public library service for the one-third of the total population who live on farms and in the small towns and villages of rural America. And, like the problems of the rural school, the rural church, the rural community, its solution will require the combined effort of all organizations and individuals interested in the enrichment of rural community life. The librarian, the minister, the teacher, the political scientist, the rural sociologist,



the land-grant college, the farm paper, the department of agriculture, these, and others, will have to work jointly in their common solution.

The county library, which was developed in the early 1900's as a means for promoting library extension to unserved rural areas, has seemingly made little progress in the last decade. Of the 3,000 odd counties in the United States, only 230 had established such libraries (spending \$1,000, or more, annually) in 1935;<sup>9</sup> and the movement which had proved so successful in providing service in rural areas in California from 1910 to 1930, and in England from 1920 to 1935,<sup>10</sup> seems to have lost, temporarily, much of its force.<sup>11</sup> The depression may have been a modifying factor. Relatively small populations, limited assessed valuations, and other causes have also affected the situation. At present, librarians are hopeful that the regional library, which may include two or more counties, or a trade area with larger populations and taxable resources, may prove a more efficient type for this purpose. Its successful development, it is hoped, may achieve the double objective of wiping out the discrepancy between the increase in the total population and that in the population served, and of providing a more effective means of accessibility in rural areas.

#### LIBRARY SERVICE ACCESSIBLE TO NEGROES

Service to Negroes in the Southeast and Southwest presents another type of variation in accessibility. Table 8 contains data concerning this situation. In 1926, in ten southeastern and two southwestern states which generally require separate schools and other institutions for the two races, 866,910 Negroes, or 10.46 per cent of a total population of 8,291,698, received li-

<sup>9</sup> Joeckel, *op. cit.*, p. 68.

<sup>10</sup> Great Britain, Board of Education, Public Libraries Committee, *Report on Public Libraries in England and Wales, 1935* (London: H. M. Stationery Office, 1935).

<sup>11</sup> A number of county libraries which were begun recently under federal emergency auspices have been taken over by county authorities and are being supported on the usual basis. Their support so far has been very limited, and records concerning them have not been made generally available.

brary service from forty-five public libraries; without service, there were 7,424,788, or 89.54 per cent. In 1935, 1,592,727, or 18.44 per cent of 8,633,437, were within the service area of seventy-five libraries. There had been an increase of 725,817

TABLE 8\*

## PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE TO NEGROES, 1935

STATE	NEGRO POPULATION	NEGROES WITH SERVICE		TOTAL LIBRARIES IN STATE	LIBRARIES IN STATE SERVING NEGROES
		Total Number	Per Cent		
Alabama . .	944,834	106,890	11 31	18	2
Arkansas . .	478,463	19,698	4 12	19	1
Florida . . .	431,828	84,374	19 54	44	4
Georgia . . .	1,071,125	162,843	15.20	53	5
Kentucky . .	226,040	90,531	40 05	64	14
Louisiana . .	776,326	169,941	21 89	16	3
Mississippi .	1,009,718	47,210	4 68	22	2
North Carolina . .	918,647	134,422	14 63	64	11
South Carolina . .	793,681	122,117	15 39	53	4
Tennessee . .	477,646	225,201	47.15	34	5
Texas . . . .	854,964	289,582	33 87	58	16
Virginia . .	650,165	139,918	21.52	46	8
Total, 1935.	8,633,437	1,592,727	18.44	491	75
COMPARISON WITH SERVICE, 1926					
Total, 1926 .	8,291,698	866,910	10 46	.....	45
Increase . .	341,739	725,817	8.00	.....	30

\* Source. *U S. Census, 1930, Population*, II, 35; A. L. A. Com. on Lib. Ext., *op. cit.*, p. 154; T. D. Barker, *Libraries of the South* (Chic: A. L. A., 1936), pp. 50-57; and headquarters office of A. L. A.

in the number served, but this was somewhat offset by an increase of 341,739 in population, which left a total population of 7,040,710, or 81.56 per cent, without service. If data differentiating service to urban and rural Negroes were available, the per cents for the two groups would show still further variation, as provision of libraries for Negroes in rural areas is even more limited than the very inadequate service for Negroes in

cities.<sup>12</sup> Actually, the per cents of the population shown as being served by libraries in the Southeast and Southwest should be considered to be lower than they are represented, because service is provided to Negroes in only 75 of the 491 communities which are listed as library service districts.

#### SERVICE THROUGH OTHER TYPES OF LIBRARIES

Although the public library has been the principal agency through which free library service has been made available to the public, other types of libraries have also provided such service. This has been true of some private, association, or subscription libraries, and particularly of university extension divisions and state library agencies. In recent years the federal government has included library service in its emergency programs.

Historically, the association, society, or subscription library, which was open to its members and sometimes to the general public, antedated the public library as a social institution. It is the kind of library which Franklin founded in the Colonial period. In many instances the libraries of this character later became altogether free public libraries: in other instances, they have remained private, or have become free for reference, or free to the public for every kind of service. In the Northeast such libraries were relatively well developed before the western parts of the country were settled, and a comparatively large number are still in service. These libraries have not been extensively established in the newer parts of the country because a more democratic type of institution seemed more nearly to be in keeping with the western point of view. In the older Southeast they were relatively numerous, though their holdings were comparatively limited. The public library was late in developing in this region, and the existence of private libraries of this type which did not provide service for Negroes has probably been a causal and retarding factor.

<sup>12</sup> L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), pp. 211-12.

## BOOKS FOR THE BLIND

The furnishing of books for the blind is another important form of library service usually supplied by the public library. For a number of years the federal government has shared in maintaining and extending this special service. The development of the talking book has recently modified the nature of the service somewhat by substituting books reproduced by means of records and phonographs; but the public library has continued to be the center through which distribution is made. The federal government aids by making an appropriation for general expense; by transporting books and records through the mails, post-free; by allotting grants to libraries that assume responsibility for maintaining the service in designated areas; and by exercising through the Library of Congress a general advisory oversight of the entire system.

The location of the libraries which act as the distributing centers for this service is shown in Figure 9. They are widely scattered and have been placed where they can be used most effectively.

## LIBRARY SERVICE THROUGH STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

Forty-four states have some form of state agency for the promotion of library extension. The state library, the library commission, or the division of libraries in the state department of education are the most common forms. They are supported by means of regular legislative appropriations and frequently have extensive stocks of books from which they can supplement the resources of local libraries. The California state library maintains a union catalog of its own holdings, as well as those of many of the public and county libraries of the state, in order to facilitate easy interlibrary loans among all the co-operating institutions. Similar service is provided by the state library agency in New Jersey and is being planned for in Ohio. Through these agencies a certain kind of public library service is made available to the residents of the whole state, even though it

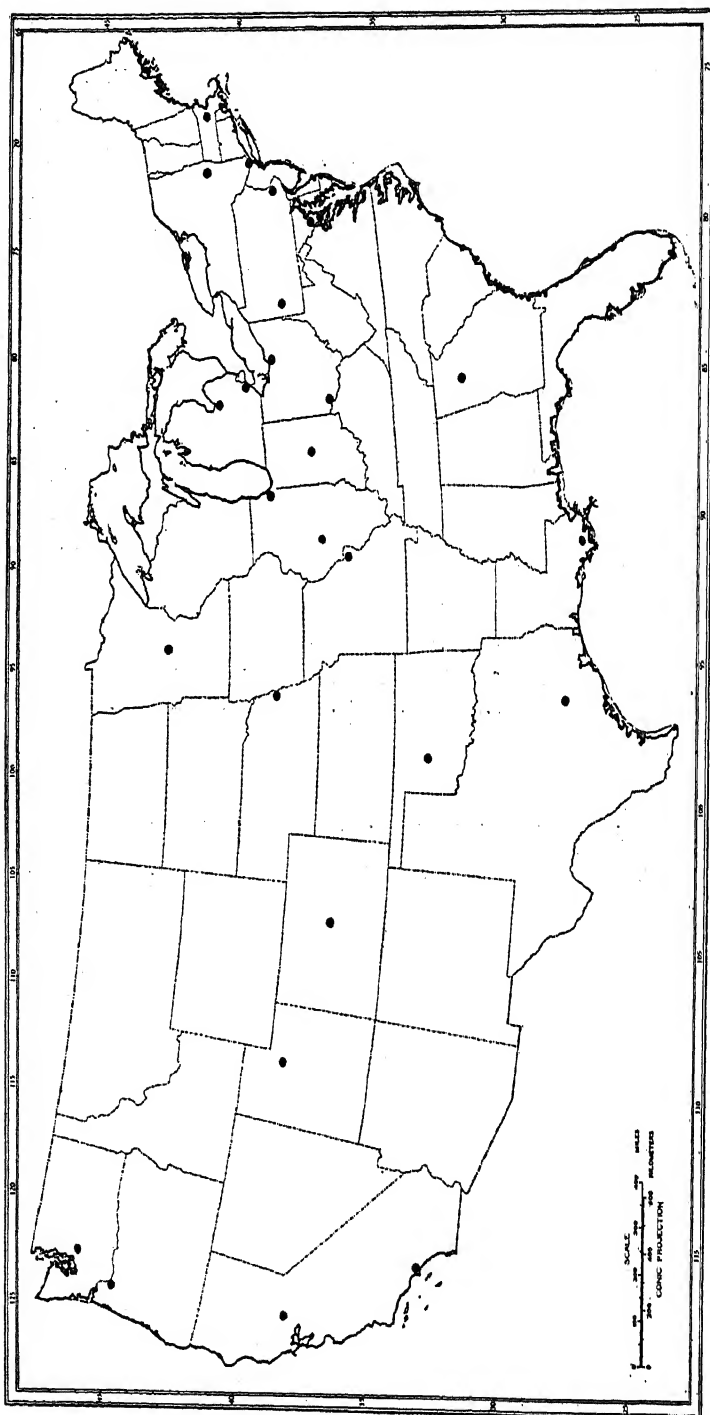


FIG. 9.—Regional libraries which distribute books for the blind, 1935. Source: U.S. Congress, House of Representatives, Committee on the Library, *Hearing on H. R. 168, 75th Cong., 1st Sess.* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1937), pp. 55-56. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

cannot be considered on a basis entirely comparable with public or county library service. It is usually of three kinds: (1) books are loaned by the state agency to local libraries, and through them to individuals; (2) traveling libraries of several hundred volumes are loaned to communities without libraries for periods of three months, or more, to be circulated very much as books from a public library; or, (3) books are sent directly from the agency to an individual by parcel post or by bookmobile. In some states a similar service is provided by the state university, or agricultural extension division, where either has been widely developed. These services are intended to stimulate the development of public libraries in communities without them, or to aid individuals in carrying out special studies. In Delaware the state agency assumes direct responsibility for the provision of what may well be considered the equivalent of county library service, through the operation of book trucks in a given area, or stations which serve the surrounding territory. The public library coverage, in all of these instances, is relatively limited. The books available for these purposes numbered 3,443,903 in 1926, and the total circulation was estimated at 1,497,395.<sup>13</sup>

Since 1933 the federal government has demonstrated an extensive interest in the field of cultural activities in general, and it has assumed responsibility for the development of several kinds of public library service which have considerably increased the accessibility of books, particularly in rural areas. The principal reason for such activity has been to provide work relief. The effect, however, has been to extend service where it did not exist and to provide certain technical and physical services which were of value to libraries.

This service has been carried on under several governmental agencies, has taken a variety of forms, and has involved a considerable number of workers. The agencies which have been principally involved have been the Civilian Conservation Corps camps, the National Youth Administration, and the Works

<sup>13</sup> American Library Association, Committee on Library Extension, *op. cit.*, p. 132.

Progress Administration with its various predecessors, such as the Civil Works Administration and the Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

The library service of the Civilian Conservation Corps camps has been limited primarily to supplying books to the several hundred thousand young men who have been enrolled in them for varying periods since their establishment. The National Youth Administration has assigned many of those involved in that organization to library projects. One of the most notable of these has been the provision of service to rural areas in New York State under the direction of the library extension division of its state board of education.<sup>14</sup>

The Works Progress Administration and its predecessors have carried on three types of activity. They have contributed to: (1) the erection and repair of buildings, (2) the carrying out of a wide variety of library projects, and (3) the repair and binding of school and library books. Up to February 15, 1937, a total of 551 libraries had been, or were being, aided by new construction or repair through this agency. This program of assistance has included grants for the smallest of libraries up to the major systems, such as those of Boston, Brooklyn, and New York. They have been widely distributed and have contributed to the maintenance and extension of service that otherwise would have suffered or would have been impossible.<sup>15</sup>

Assistance to schools and libraries in repairing and mending books during the half-month ending February 28, 1937, involved 7,928 persons in 804 projects in forty-four states, the District of Columbia, and New York City. The total earnings for the period were \$206,936, which went to 751 men and 7,177 women. From the beginning of projects of this nature, through February, 1937, 15,089 schools were assisted in forty states; 8,863,610 schoolbooks were repaired in thirty-eight states; and 1,856,564 schoolbooks were rebound in twenty-nine states. At

<sup>14</sup> M. F. Mason, "Partial Report on Rural Library Service, March 12-June 15, 1936," *New York Libraries*, XV (1936), 107-10.

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Works Progress Administration, Information Service, "Libraries and Museums of Nation Benefit in Works Program" (Typewritten; Washington, 1937).

the same time, 1,682 libraries had been aided in thirty-nine states; 8,140,491 library books had been repaired in thirty-six states; and 989,790 library books had been rebound in thirty-two states.<sup>16</sup>

Even more extensive than these services, however, has been the assistance which has been given to libraries under the general term, "library extension." This has included every type of library activity. Some of the most notable examples are the development of union catalogs at Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Denver, and the provision of library service to rural and unserved areas on a state-wide basis, as in Mississippi. In the latter instance, \$292,688 has been made available by the W.P.A. for one year, beginning November 1, 1936, to furnish service employing 590 women through six districts.<sup>17</sup> During the last two weeks of February, 1937, 14,212 persons earning \$454,053 for the period were employed on 964 projects in forty-eight states, the District of Columbia, and New York City. Usually books for the extension service have been provided locally. In some instances, small sums have been given by the W.P.A., as in Mississippi, where \$5,000 was allocated for this purpose. Since the beginning of the program, through February, 1937, 2,502 new libraries have been started in thirty states; 1,987 traveling units have been put into operation in twenty-two states; 2,674,473 additional books have been made available to the public in twenty-nine states; and service has been extended to an additional 2,115,984 persons formerly without access to library materials.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Works Progress Administration. Table 1-b, "Employment, Hours and Earnings on W.P.A. Book Binding and Repair Projects by Relief Status, by Sex, and by States. Half-Month Ending February 28, 1937 (Subject to Revision)"; Table 2-a, "Book Binding and Repair Project Accomplishments (From the Opening of the Projects under W.P.A. through February 28, 1937)." (Typewritten.)

<sup>17</sup> Correspondence with Miss Pearl Sneed, Secretary, Mississippi State Library Commission, Jackson, Miss., February 15, 1937.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Works Progress Administration. Table 1-a, "Employment, Hours and Earnings on Works Progress Administration Library Projects by Sex and by States. Half-Month Ending February 28, 1937 (Subject to Revision)"; Table 2-b, "Library Extension Project Accomplishments (From the Opening of the Projects under W.P.A. through February 28, 1937)." (Typewritten.)



In the majority of instances, the service has been organized and directed in co-operation with the regularly constituted state library agencies or the local library authorities. In the case of state-wide activities, the plans of operation have, however, differed rather sharply from the usual pattern, in that there has been a marked tendency to divide states into well-defined library districts, with supervisors in charge of a number of counties. The supervisors have been drawn, in the main, from the ranks of trained librarians, whereas the local workers have been untrained and have been drawn from the relief rolls.

#### CENTER OF LIBRARY POPULATION

Since 1874, Americans have been familiar with the idea of the center of population of the United States. This point was plotted for the first time in that year, and since then it has been plotted for each census, and also for censuses as far back as 1790.<sup>19</sup> The procedure has been extended in recent years to include centers of special populations such as foreign-born, urban, rural, and even to special occupations, such as agriculture and mining. The extension of this procedure to library populations is illustrated in Figure 10.<sup>20</sup> The center for the general population in 1935 is located in southwestern Indiana. The centers for the population with public library service in 1926 and 1935 are distinctly north and east of the corresponding centers for the general population. They are located in central Indiana. The center with public library service in 1935, however, has moved westward and southward, during the nine-year interval, toward the center of general population. This is a healthy tendency. The center of population without public library service, however, is located in southern Illinois, owing to the fact that the per cents of the populations of the Southeast and

<sup>19</sup> Cf. W. C. Eells, "The Center of Population of Higher Educational Libraries in the United States, 1870-1930," *Library Quarterly*, VI (1936), 175-81.

<sup>20</sup> The figure has been prepared by Dr. W. C. Eells, of Stanford University, who has computed centers for other special populations, such as those of higher educational institutions and college libraries.

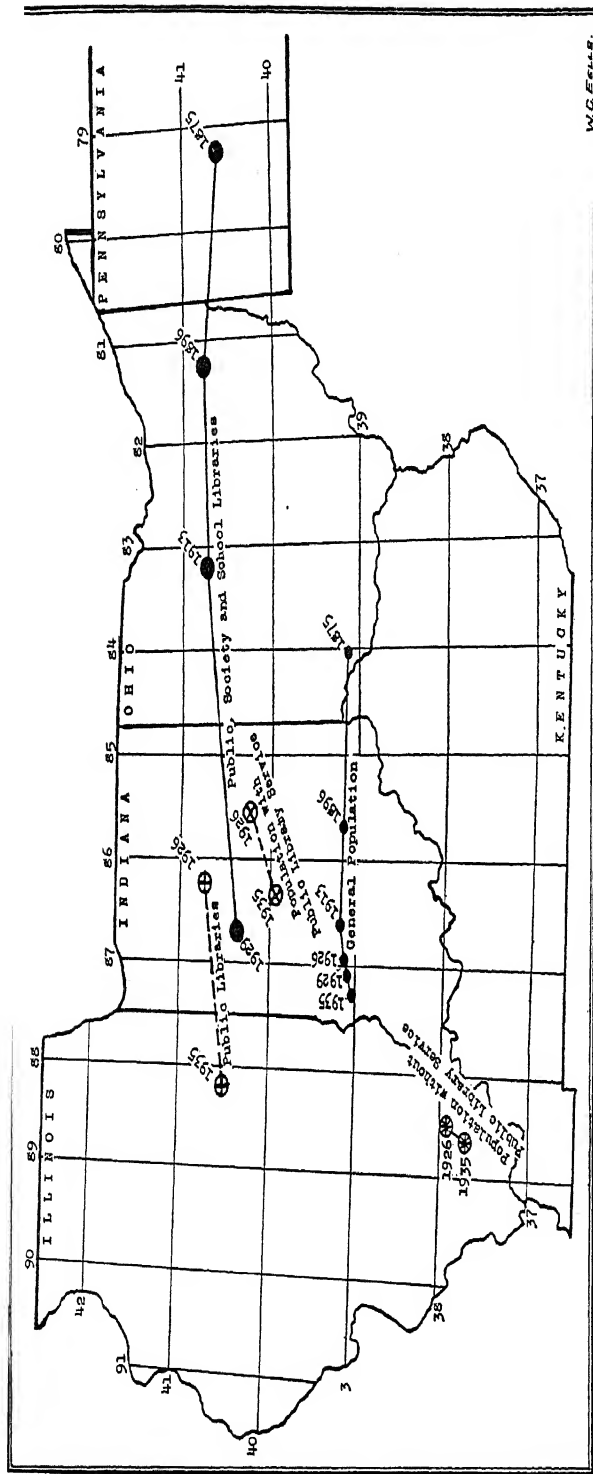


FIG. 10.—Center of library population. Source: Five sets of computations made by Dr. W. C. Eccles, of Stanford University, of centers of population. These computations were based upon information obtained from the federal census reports for the years 1875-1935; U.S. Office of Education reports, 1875-1929; American Library Association statistics as given in their *Library Extension* for 1926, and in their *Bulletin* for April and July, Vol. XXIX, 1935. Cf. footnotes 1-3, chap. 1.

Reading from top to bottom, the map shows the results of the five computations, as follows:

- (1) Center of population of public libraries, 1875 and 1935, "population" being the number of volumes; (2) center of population of public, society, and school libraries of 1,000 volumes, or more, 1875, 1896, 1913, and 1929, referred to as "all libraries," population being the number of volumes; (3) center of population with public library service, 1926 and 1935; (4) center of general population, 1875, 1896, 1913, 1926, 1929, and 1935; (5) center of population without public library service for 1926 and 1935.

Southwest without public library service are greater than those of the other four regions.

The other centers indicated in Figure 10 are those of the populations of public libraries for 1926 and 1935, and of all libraries (that is, "public, society, and school libraries of 1,000 volumes, or more"), for 1875, 1896, 1913, and 1929. In these instances, "population" does not mean people, but number of volumes or books. These centers of actual books are definitely to the north and east of the general population centers, and their movement toward the west has been comparatively much more rapid than that of the general population centers. But the center for public, society, and school libraries is south of the centers for public libraries for 1926 and 1935. Unfortunately, data for the former are not available for 1935; it seems probable, however, that if such data could be procured, the center would lie in eastern Illinois, south of that for public libraries.

As has already been shown in other ways, library coverage, seen in the additional light of the centers of library populations, is not so much a problem of the Northeast as it is of the other five regions. Within the boundaries of the Northeast are many concentrations of 500,000, or more, volumes. They are to be found in Boston, Providence, New Haven, New York, Philadelphia, and other northeastern areas, and they determine in large measure the location of the centers of library population. But here again, as throughout the entire chapter, the rule of inequality of accessibility holds true. Over against the concentration of 12,500,000 volumes in the combined public libraries of the city and state of New York are the 1,577,047 citizens of the state without access to public libraries. And in Pennsylvania the 4,982,000 volumes in public libraries are matched by 4,356,522 individuals who have no access to them.

#### SUMMARY

In concluding this chapter, it should be repeated that it has dealt primarily with the problem of accessibility of public li-

braries to the population. It has stressed the idea of service areas, or coverage. This, it has shown, varies from 12 per cent to 100 per cent in the forty-eight states, and from 0 to 100 per cent among the counties of Illinois, except for occasional loans from state agencies, school libraries, and public libraries which provide service to nonresidents for special fees. The questions of service, or use, as differentiated from coverage, are reserved for later consideration, but it is necessary that the distinction be made here. Free public libraries may exist, and do exist, within the reach of many people who have a legal right to use them, but who do not, or cannot, take advantage of the opportunity. While this is true, the most challenging facts developed within the chapter are that 37 persons out of every 100 in the United States live in areas in which they do not have this opportunity; that 88 per cent of the 45,000,000 without public library service live in rural areas; that approximately 8,000,000 of them are Negroes living in the Southeast and Southwest; and, that approximately 22,500,000, or one-half of the total without public library service, are to be found in the Southeast and Southwest, although these regions contain but approximately one-third of the population of the nation.

## CHAPTER II

### LIBRARY RESOURCES

THE accessibility of public library service to residents of different states and regions of the United States has been discussed in chapter i. In chapter ii consideration is given to the resources of public libraries in 1934 and of all libraries (including public libraries) in 1929, as these are revealed by the number of volumes per capita which the residents of different states and regions have at their disposal. The nature of the service furnished, as recorded by number of borrowers and circulation, will be given attention in a later chapter.

#### VOLUMES IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The total number of volumes in the 6,235 public libraries in the United States, at the beginning of 1935, was 100,470,215.<sup>1</sup> One-eighth of this total, approximately, or 12,705,090 volumes, was contained in the state of New York in 555 public libraries, while the 36 libraries of New Mexico contained only 137,346. The range of volumes per capita, which is indicated in Table 9 and Figures 11 and 12, is from 3.57 in New Hampshire to 0.10 in Arkansas and Mississippi. The average for the United States for the period 1926-35 increased from 0.62 to 0.89.

In presenting this table and map, several interpretations are necessary. First of all, the unit of measure employed is that of volumes per capita for the entire population of a state. The nature of the quality of the volumes is not indicated. On a state-wide per capita basis it is clear that the resident of New Hampshire has thirty-five books at his disposal to every one that the resident of Arkansas or Mississippi has. This is true

<sup>1</sup> "Public Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXIX(1935), 253.

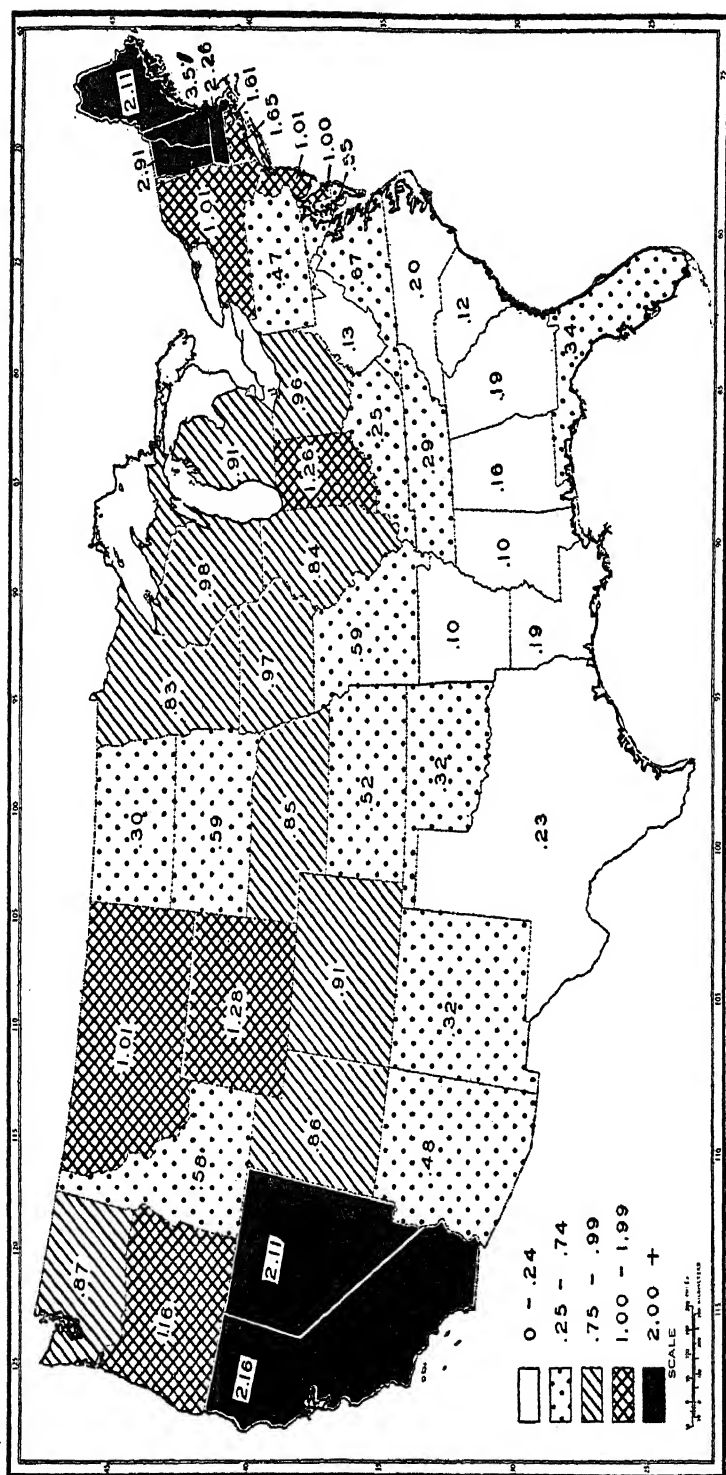


FIG. 11.—Volumes per capita in public libraries, 1934. Source: Same as for Table 9. (Goode Base Map No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

when the total number of volumes contained in all the public libraries of the states are divided equally among the entire population—a kind of division which it has been shown in chapter i does not exist in any states except Massachusetts and Delaware. By excluding the population not served, data showing holdings per capita for the areas served have been computed in the table. This aids in indicating general variation, though the ranking of the states and general comparisons are for the most part made throughout the study on the basis of total populations.

In the second place, it is also quite probable that differences in number of volumes per capita in public libraries do not al-

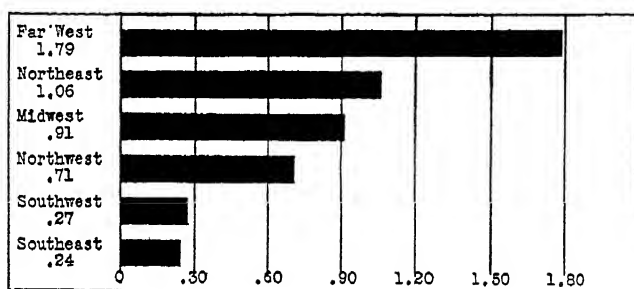


FIG. 12.—Regional summary of volumes per capita in public libraries, 1934

ways represent relative accessibility of library books. If New York and New Hampshire are contrasted on this basis, it appears from Figure 11 that each resident of the state of New York has at his disposal in public libraries only one book to every three and a half books at the disposal of the resident of New Hampshire. Yet one would scarcely conclude that the accessibility of library books to the resident of New Hampshire is three and one-half times greater than the accessibility of library books to the New Yorker. Fifty-five per cent of the inhabitants of New York State live in the city of New York, and in few parts of the world are library books of all sorts more readily accessible than there. Consequently, it is altogether probable that in no part of New Hampshire may library books covering a wide range of subjects be considered to be as accessible as they are to over half of the population of the state of New

York. A greater per cent of the population of the rural sections of New Hampshire is supplied with library books than are the populations of corresponding areas of New York; but the comparison stops at that point, as per capita holdings have not been computed for rural populations.

If the examination of Figure 11 is carried farther, it is found that New York ranks lower in volumes per capita in public libraries than Oregon, Colorado, or Maine, and about the same as Montana, Iowa, and Wisconsin. As has been stated, the figure presents volumes per capita in public libraries on a state-wide basis. Any attempt to make it mean relative accessibility of library resources is, therefore, fraught with difficulty. Probably Figure 1 in chapter 1 (Per cent of population of each state residing in local public library districts, 1934) more accurately indicates relative accessibility. Consideration of Figures 1 and 11 together reveals a high degree of similarity.

The two maps, if compared as to shading from white to black, will be seen to form a somewhat similar pattern. Half of the forty-eight states are in the corresponding shading, or interval, on the two maps, while twenty-two are within one interval of the same, and only two states vary as much as two intervals. By intervals is meant the five quantitative groupings indicated by different degrees of shading used in each map. This comparison is a very rough one, since the intervals are only crudely comparable on the two maps. It probably tends to minimize the degree of similarity. Reference to Tables 9 (Volumes per capita in public libraries, 1934) and 2 (Per cent of population of each state residing in local public library districts, 1934) reveals that of the ten states ranking highest in per capita volumes in public libraries, seven are numbered among the first ten in per cent of population living in library service areas. Conversely, of the ten lowest ranking states with respect to holdings, five rank in the lowest ten with respect to population served, and nine rank in the lowest fifteen. For example, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and California stand well at the



TABLE 9\*  
 VOLUMES PER CAPITA IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1934

STATE	RANK	VOLUMES PER CAPITA			STANDARD SCORE
		Total Volumes	Total Population	Population Served	
New Hampshire . . . . .	1	1,660,734	3 57	3 58	3 57
Vermont . . . . .	2	1,046,853	2.91	3 14	2 69
Massachusetts . . . . .	3	9,610,046	2 26	2 26	1 82
California . . . . .	4	12,235,626	2 16	2 20	1 69
Nevada . . . . .	5	192,151	2 11	3.16	1 62
Maine . . . . .	5	1,680,277	2 11	2 85	1 62
Connecticut . . . . .	7	2,658,183	1 65	1.67	1 01
Rhode Island . . . . .	8	1,104,238	1 61	1.67	0 96
Wyoming . . . . .	9	289,078	1 28	1.33	0 52
Indiana . . . . .	10	4,072,587	1 26	1.73	0.49
Oregon . . . . .	11	1,102,105	1 16	1.65	0.27
New Jersey . . . . .	12	4,092,009	1.01	1.06	0.16
Montana . . . . .	12	545,017	1 01	1.99	0.16
New York . . . . .	12	12,705,090	1.01	1 15	0.16
Delaware . . . . .	15	238,040	1.00	1.00	0.15
Wisconsin . . . . .	16	2,870,806	0 98	1.40	0.12
Iowa . . . . .	17	2,388,349	0 97	2.03	0.11
Ohio . . . . .	18	6,383,708	0 96	1.03	0 07
Colorado . . . . .	19	940,688	0 91	1.62	0.03
Michigan . . . . .	19	4,428,404	0 91	1 21	0.03
Washington . . . . .	21	1,346,665	0.87	1 45	-0 03
Utah . . . . .	22	436,959	0.86	1 28	-0.04
Nebraska . . . . .	23	1,168,344	0 85	1.71	-0 05
Illinois . . . . .	24	6,429,272	0 84	1.13	-0 07
Minnesota . . . . .	25	2,081,601	0.83	1.35	-0 08
Virginia . . . . .	26	1,625,315	0 67	2 01	-0.29
South Dakota . . . . .	27	409,676	0 59	1.93	-0 40
Missouri . . . . .	27	2,141,864	0 59	1.17	-0 40
Idaho . . . . .	29	258,511	0.58	1 85	-0 41
Maryland . . . . .	30	892,231	0.55	0.69	-0.45
Kansas . . . . .	31	962,855	0 52	1 09	-0.49
Arizona . . . . .	32	211,068	0 48	0.76	-0 55
Pennsylvania . . . . .	33	4,493,138	0 47	0 85	-0 56
Florida . . . . .	34	505,199	0.34	0 87	-0.73
Oklahoma . . . . .	35	764,279	0 32	0.94	-0.76
New Mexico . . . . .	35	137,346	0 32	0 98	-0 76
North Dakota . . . . .	37	205,740	0 30	1 61	-0.79
Tennessee . . . . .	38	763,677	0.29	0 70	-0.80
Kentucky . . . . .	39	650,011	0.25	0 66	-0 85
Texas . . . . .	40	1,353,929	0 23	0.67	-0.88
North Carolina . . . . .	41	623,360	0.20	0 44	-0 92
Louisiana . . . . .	42	401,757	0 19	0 50	-0.93
Georgia . . . . .	42	566,259	0.19	0 68	-0 93
Alabama . . . . .	44	427,984	0 16	0 50	-0 97
West Virginia . . . . .	45	227,726	0 13	1 11	-1 01
South Carolina . . . . .	46	304,756	0.12	0 44	-1 02
Arkansas . . . . .	47	179,054	0 10	0 64	-1 05
Mississippi . . . . .	47	201,326	0.10	0.32	-1.05

\* Source. "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 252-53.  
 Mean volumes per capita total population (based on means of the 48 states), 0.89; mean volumes per capita population served (based on means of the 48 states), 1.29; standard deviation, 0.75; U.S. total, 100,470,215; U.S. volumes per capita total population (including District of Columbia), 0.82.  
 Rank and standard scores are based on per capita total population rather than on population served.

top of both rank orders, whereas Arkansas, Georgia, and West Virginia occupy a correspondingly low position in both.

Since the number of volumes per capita for a given state are shown, but not compared with the per cent of population served, and since the comparative *rank* of a given state in the two tables affords only a crude basis for comparison, the status of each state with respect to the subject matter of each table has been translated into an abstract index number or standard score.<sup>2</sup> This has been done in order that differences shown in the tables,

TABLE 10\*  
PUBLIC LIBRARY HOLDINGS PER CAPITA, BY REGION  
1926 AND 1935  
(Standard Scores)

REGION	STANDARD SCORE		
	1926	1935	Increase
Northeast .	0.91	1.06	0.15
Midwest ....	0.66	0.91	0.25
Southeast. .	0.14	0.24	0.10
Southwest..	0.15	0.27	0.12
Northwest.. .	0.47	0.71	0.24
Far West.... ..	1.37	1.79	0.42

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 252-53; A. L. A., Com. on Lib. Ext., *Library Extension* (Chic. A. L. A., 1926), pp. 122-23; U.S. Census, 1920, *Population*, I, 20; U.S. Census, 1930, *Population*, I, 10-11.

and by means of the figures, may be placed on a comparable basis and may be consequently more susceptible of correct interpretation.

Table 10 shows the increase in per capita holdings from 1926 to 1935.

#### PER CAPITA HOLDINGS WITHIN A STATE

The situation described in the preceding pages is duplicated in the distribution of per capita holdings as illustrated in Table 11 (Volumes per capita in Illinois public libraries). Only in Warren County is the entire population served through a coun-

<sup>2</sup> See footnote to Table 2.

TABLE 11\*  
 VOLUMES PER CAPITA IN ILLINOIS PUBLIC LIBRARIES  
 DECEMBER 31, 1933

County	Rank	Volumes	County	Rank	Volumes
Warren.....	1	2 18	Kankakee... ..	48	0 71
Knox.....	2	2 01	Fulton... ..	49	0 66
Piatt ....	3	1 91	Jersey . . . . .	50	0 65
Stark.. . . .	4	1.88	Pike.....	51	0 64
Henry . . . . .	5	1 79	Shelby. . . . .	51	0 64
Hancock. . . . .	6	1 64	Christian.. . . .	53	0 63
Kane. . . . .	7	1 63	Moultrie . . . . .	54	0 62
Stephenson . . . .	8	1 61	Wabash... . . .	55	0 61
Peoria . . . . .	9	1 50	Edgar ....	56	0 60
De Kalb . . . . .	10	1 46	Coles.....	57	0 59
Alexander.....	11	1 39	St. Clair. . . . .	58	0 57
Ogle . . . . .	12	1.32	Brown. . . . .	59	0 55
De Witt . . . . .	13	1.28	Crawford. . . . .	59	0 55
Lake.. . . .	14	1.25	Scott . . . . .	61	0 54
Logan... . . . .	14	1.25	Cook.. . . .	62	0 53
Champaign.. . .	16	1 22	Grundy . . . . .	62	0 53
Jo Daviess . . . .	17	1.19	Union. . . . .	62	0 53
Morgan . . . . .	18	1 18	Edwards . . . . .	65	0 52
Rock Island . . . .	19	1 15	Madison ....	65	0 52
Ford. . . . .	20	1 12	Lawrence . . . . .	67	0 48
Iroquois . . . . .	21	1 11	Massac.....	67	0 48
Sangamon... . . .	21	1 11	Richland... . .	69	0 45
Winnebago . . . . .	23	1.10	Mercer. . . . .	70	0 44
Carroll . . . . .	24	1 07	Montgomery.....	70	0 44
Kendall.....	25	1.04	Schuyler . . . . .	72	0 43
Boone . . . . .	26	1.03	Marion. . . . .	73	0 41
McDonough.....	27	1 01	Bond.....	74	0 39
La Salle . . . . .	28	1 00	Cass. . . . .	75	0 36
Whiteside. . . . .	29	0 91	White.....	76	0 34
Greene.....	30	0.88	Hamilton . . . . .	77	0 29
McLean.....	30	0.88	Jefferson . . . . .	77	0 29
Livingston . . . . .	32	0.87	Williamson.....	79	0 28
Marshall.....	32	0.87	Fayette... . . .	80	0 27
McHenry.....	34	0.86	Macoupin.....	81	0 25
Vermilion . . . . .	34	0.86	Clay.....	82	0 23
Du Page . . . . .	36	0 84	Clark.....	83	0 21
Adams . . . . .	37	0.83	Jackson.....	83	0 21
Cumberland. . . . .	38	0 82	Saline . . . . .	83	0 21
Bureau. . . . .	39	0 81	Wayne.....	83	0 21
Douglas.....	39	0 81	Monroe. . . . .	87	0 17
Macon . . . . .	39	0 81	Franklin.....	88	0 16
Tazewell.. . . .	39	0 81	Randolph.....	89	0 15
Mason.....	43	0 77	Johnson . . . . .	90	0 08
Lee.....	44	0 75	Perry.....	90	0 08
Will.....	45	0 74	Washington.....	92	0 06
Woodford.....	45	0 74	Clinton.....	93	0.02
Menard.....	47	0 72			

\* Source. Computed from Ill. State Lib., Lib. Ext. Div., *Report for January 1, 1932 to December 31, 1933* (Springfield: State of Ill., 1934), pp. 27-51.

Illinois mean (based on the 93 counties), 0.78, Illinois median, 0.72; Illinois standard deviation, 0.507. Counties with no public libraries: Calhoun, Effingham, Gallatin, Hardin, Henderson, Jasper, Pope, Pulaski, Putnam.

ty library. Its holdings are thus adjusted to the number of people served. In all the other counties the holdings are also based on the total population, although the libraries in them serve only the residents in the cities or townships in which the libraries are located. Presented in this form, the fact is hidden that approximately 2,000,000 people in 101 counties of the state have no volumes per capita at all, whereas the actual per capita holdings of those in library service areas is considerably higher than the table indicates.

TABLE 12\*  
VOLUMES PER CAPITA IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES SERVING CITY  
POPULATIONS FROM 200,000, OR MORE, TO 10,000, 1935

Population	Cities	High	Median	Low	A.L.A. Standard
200,000 and over.....	43	2 223	0 921	0.361	1.500
100,000-199,999 . . . . .	41	1.982	1 105	0.404	2.000
35,000- 99,999 . . . . .	43	3 241	1 580	0 455	2.000
10,000- 34,999 . . . . .	38	6 058	1 777	0 891	2 000

\* Source "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull*, XXX (1935), 258-59, 262, 268, 273; "Standards for Public Libraries," A. L. A., *Bull*, XXX (1936), 514.

#### PER CAPITA HOLDINGS WITHIN CITIES AND COUNTIES

Further evidence of variation is revealed if an analysis is made of per capita holdings by cities and counties. Table 12 shows the variation within cities arranged according to size. Cleveland, with 2.223 volumes per capita, heads the list of 43 cities with 200,000 population, or more. Four others exceed the American Library Association standard of one and one-half volumes. In the group of 41 cities between 100,000 and 199,999, Peoria, Illinois, with 1.982 almost equals the standard of two volumes. In the group of 43 cities between 35,000 and 99,999, Brookline, Massachusetts, leads with 3.241, and in the group of 38 cities between 10,000 and 34,999, Bangor, Maine, leads with 6.058, or more than three times the standard. For cities less than 10,000, the standard is three volumes per capita.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> "Standards for Public Libraries," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXVII (1933), 513-14.

Information of like character concerning counties is given in Table 13. Four types of county libraries are recognized: (1) under county control, serving all, or most, of the county; (2) under county control, omitting county seat and possibly other sections; (3) controlled and financed jointly by headquarters, city and county; and (4) library service by contract with a municipal, or other local library. The counties ranking highest in each of the four groups were Madera County, California (group 1), Tehama County, California (group 2), Cass County,

TABLE 13\*  
VOLUMES PER CAPITA IN COUNTY LIBRARIES, 1934-35

County Libraries	Counties	High	Median	Low
<i>Group I:</i> Serving all or most of county.. . . .	27	6 07	1.84	0 30
<i>Group II:</i> Omitting service to county seat, and possibly other sections.....	25	5.78	1.47	0 40
<i>Group III:</i> Serving headquarters, city, and county. . . .	7	2 27	0 70	0 39
<i>Group IV:</i> County served through contract... . .	23	4.63	1.00	0 08

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXX (1936), 115-21.

Indiana (group 3), and Wasco County, Oregon (group 4). The holdings of California libraries are generally above those of the other regions, and those of southeastern and southwestern libraries are generally lower.

#### VOLUMES IN SCHOOL, PUBLIC, AND SOCIETY LIBRARIES

Thus far in this chapter only the volumes found in public libraries have been considered. Table 14 presents data for all libraries in the United States, school, college, university, public, and society, reporting to the Office of Education in 1929. Libraries of less than 1,000 volumes were not included, and returns from the several states were of varying completeness. Although this total numbered only 161,975,385 in 1929, as con-

TABLE 14\*

VOLUMES PER 100 POPULATION IN LIBRARIES OF 1,000 VOLUMES, OR MORE,  
REPORTING TO THE U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION IN 1929

STATE	RANK	VOLUMES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100 Population	
New Hampshire.. . . .	1	2,019,493	434.0	3.33
Connecticut.. . . .	2	5,330,037	331.7	2.19
Vermont.. . . .	3	1,164,259	323.8	2.10
Massachusetts.. . . .	4	13,683,488	322.0	2.08
Rhode Island.. . . .	5	1,921,851	279.5	1.61
Nevada.. . . .	6	233,930	256.9	1.36
Maine.. . . .	7	1,864,504	233.8	1.10
California.. . . .	8	12,157,941	214.2	0.88
Oregon.. . . .	9	1,792,941	188.0	0.59
Colorado.. . . .	10	1,807,331	174.5	0.43
Minnesota.. . . .	11	4,312,821	168.2	0.36
Wisconsin.. . . .	12	4,904,241	166.9	0.35
Wyoming.. . . .	13	373,369	165.5	0.33
New York.. . . .	14	20,605,794	163.7	0.31
Iowa.. . . .	15	3,822,557	154.7	0.21
Montana.. . . .	16	826,713	153.8	0.20
Indiana.. . . .	17	4,806,632	148.4	0.14
Kansas.. . . .	18	2,661,715	141.5	0.07
Utah.. . . .	19	708,806	139.6	0.04
Illinois.. . . .	20	10,575,141	138.6	0.03
Washington.. . . .	21	2,152,176	137.7	0.02
Ohio.. . . .	22	9,008,651	135.5	0.00
Maryland.. . . .	23	2,197,228	134.7	-0.01
Delaware.. . . .	24	299,783	125.8	-0.11
Arizona.. . . .	25	536,629	123.2	-0.14
Missouri.. . . .	26	4,273,623	117.8	-0.20
Michigan.. . . .	27	5,595,377	115.6	-0.22
New Jersey.. . . .	28	4,634,996	114.7	-0.23
South Dakota.. . . .	29	761,857	110.0	-0.29
Nebraska.. . . .	30	1,488,476	108.0	-0.32
North Dakota.. . . .	31	639,504	93.9	-0.47
Pennsylvania.. . . .	32	8,598,384	89.3	-0.52
Idaho.. . . .	33	388,033	87.2	-0.54
Virginia.. . . .	34	1,712,318	70.7	-0.73
New Mexico.. . . .	35	286,315	67.6	-0.76
Oklahoma.. . . .	36	1,467,208	61.2	-0.83
Texas.. . . .	37	3,172,065	54.5	-0.91
Kentucky.. . . .	38	1,419,693	54.3	-0.91
Tennessee.. . . .	39	1,406,045	53.7	-0.92
West Virginia.. . . .	40	907,054	52.5	-0.93
North Carolina.. . . .	41	1,434,644	45.3	-1.01
Louisiana.. . . .	42	926,165	44.1	-1.02
Florida.. . . .	43	642,000	43.7	-1.03
Georgia.. . . .	44	1,165,601	40.1	-1.07
Alabama.. . . .	45	1,013,163	38.3	-1.09
South Carolina.. . . .	46	572,630	32.9	-1.15
Mississippi.. . . .	47	636,278	31.7	-1.16
Arkansas.. . . .	48	527,042	28.4	-1.20

\* Source: U.S. Off. Educ., *Statistics of Public, School, and Society Libraries, 1929*, Bull. 1930, No. 37 (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1931), p. 14.

Mean per 100 population (based on means of the 48 states), 135.7; standard deviation, 89.5; U.S. total, 161,975,385; U.S. volumes per 100 population (including District of Columbia), 131.9.



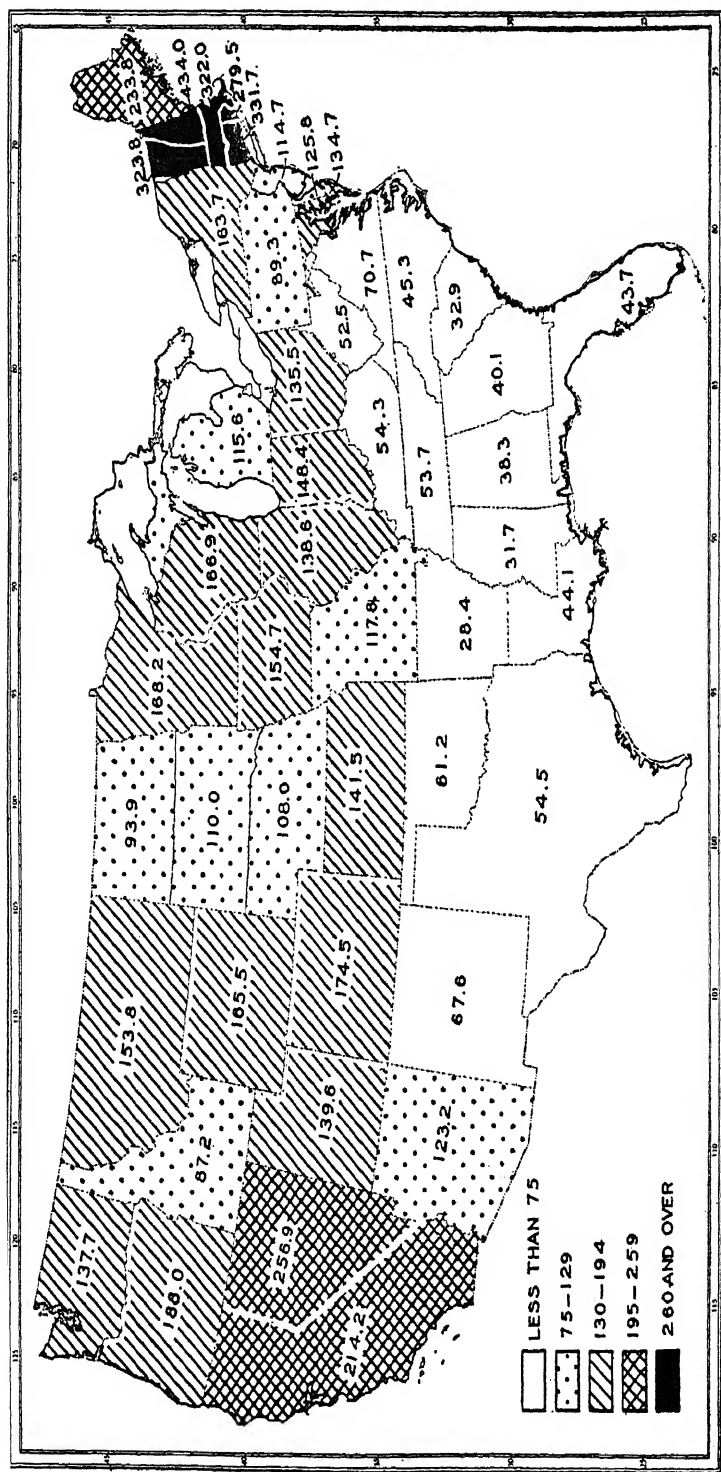


FIG. 14.—Volumes per 100 population in libraries of 1,000 volumes, or more, reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929. Source: Same as for Table 14. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)



trasted with 100,470,215 in public libraries, alone, in 1934, the two sets of data, as presented graphically in Figures 11 and 14, respectively, will be seen to correspond almost perfectly. Reference to Tables 9 and 14 will show that the rank orders, with respect to number of volumes, of the first eight states in the two tables are very similar, though not exactly the same, while the eight states lowest with respect to public library holdings fall within the list of the nine states which rank lowest in total li-

TABLE 15\*  
STANDARD SCORES OF SEVEN STATES IN TERMS OF  
PUBLIC LIBRARY HOLDINGS AND TOTAL  
LIBRARY HOLDINGS

STATE	LIBRARY HOLDINGS	
	Public	Total
New Hampshire....	3 57	3 33
Wyoming.....	0 52	0 33
Iowa.....	0.11	0.21
Minnesota .....	-0.08	0 36
Pennsylvania .....	-0 56	-0.52
North Carolina ..	-0 92	-1 01
Mississippi.....	-1 05	-1 16

\* Source: Tables 9 and 14.

brary resources. If the standard scores of a random group of seven states taken from Table 9 are compared with the standard scores of the same states taken from Table 14, the two sets of indices are seen to be very similar. The similarity is indicated in Table 15.

Minnesota is the only state which appears to be out of line. Differences between the two scores may probably be largely explained by (1) the inclusion of the very extensive holdings of the libraries of higher educational institutions of the state, and (2) differences in the completeness of reports. The rank of Massachusetts in Table 14, for example, is lower than it should be, on account of the omission of statistics for Harvard University.

TABLE 16\*

VOLUMES ADDED PER 100 POPULATION, IN LIBRARIES OF 1,000  
VOLUMES, OR MORE, REPORTING TO THE U.S.  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION IN 1929

STATE	RANK	VOLUMES ADDED		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100 Population	
California .....	1	1,207,162	21 26	3 00
New Hampshire.. ..	2	81,993	17 62	2.13
Connecticut .....	3	259,101	16 12	1 77
Massachusetts .....	4	651,563	15 33	1.59
Rhode Island .. ..	5	102,225	14 87	1.48
Oregon .....	6	125,252	13 13	1 06
Nevada .....	7	11,899	13 07	1 05
Ohio .....	8	864,176	13 00	1 03
Wyoming .....	9	28,627	12 69	0 96
Indiana .....	10	406,823	12 56	0 93
Wisconsin .....	11	328,889	11.19	0 60
Minnesota .....	12	281,887	10.99	0.55
Utah .....	13	53,555	10.55	0.45
Illinois .....	14	802,728	10.52	0.44
Vermont .....	15	37,402	10.40	0.41
New Jersey .....	16	411,709	10.19	0.36
Montana .....	17	54,227	10.09	0.34
New York .....	18	1,255,035	9.97	0.31
Colorado .....	19	102,144	9 86	0.29
Washington. ....	20	150,986	9.83	0.28
Maine .....	21	74,429	9 33	0.16
Iowa .....	22	223,510	9.05	0.09
Michigan .....	23	416,310	8.60	-0 01
Arizona .....	24	36,664	8.42	-0 06
South Dakota .....	25	57,280	8.27	-0 09
Kansas .....	26	153,949	8 18	-0 11
Oklahoma .....	27	194,141	8 10	-0.13
Maryland .....	28	130,273	7.98	-0.16
Missouri .....	29	261,400	7 20	-0 35
Nebraska .....	30	89,473	6 49	-0 52
North Dakota .....	31	43,443	6 38	-0.54
Delaware .....	32	13,860	5.81	-0 68
Pennsylvania .....	33	547,276	5 68	-0 71
Idaho .....	34	24,929	5.60	-0 73
Texas .....	35	267,301	5 59	-0.73
New Mexico .....	36	23,027	5.44	-0 77
North Carolina .....	37	171,909	5 42	-0 77
Virginia .....	38	121,459	5 02	-0.87
Florida .....	39	72,826	4 96	-0 88
Tennessee .....	40	125,976	4.81	-0 92
West Virginia .....	41	78,850	4.56	-0.98
Louisiana .....	42	76,986	3 66	-1.19
Kentucky .....	43	93,448	3.57	-1 21
Arkansas .....	44	59,879	3.23	-1 29
Georgia .....	45	83,987	2.89	-1 37
Alabama .....	46	72,560	2.74	-1 41
South Carolina .....	46	47,592	2.74	-1.41
Mississippi .....	48	51,932	2.58	-1 45

\* Source: Adapted from U.S. Off. Educ., *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*, pp. 7, 12-13.  
Mean per 100 population (based on means of the 48 states), 8.66; standard deviation, 4.20; U.S. total, 11,179,583; U.S. volumes per 100 population (including District of Columbia), 9.16.

## TENDENCY OF INEQUALITIES TOWARD PERPETUATION

Not only do inequalities in the number of volumes per capita exist between the various states and regions, but in certain respects they seem to increase and to perpetuate themselves. An examination of Table 16 and Figure 15 reveals the extent to which the inequalities shown by Figures 11 and 14 are being reduced or accentuated through disparity in current additions to accumulated book stocks. In general, the states which are relatively deficient in library book resources are seen to be low in current acquisitions. A more careful scrutiny of Figures 11 and 15 shows that twenty-seven states are in the corresponding interval on the two maps; eighteen states have changed one interval, and three have changed two. On the two tables (Tables 9 and 16) the standard scores of the eight states selected at random for Table 17 show that, except for Minnesota, the order of the standard scores is identical. The extreme position of New Hampshire with respect to book holdings tends to distort the other standard scores of the same table.<sup>4</sup>

The extent to which inequality in number of books in libraries is being accentuated with the passage of time because of corresponding inequality in rate of acquisition is perhaps better revealed by a comparison of the two sets of data summarized by regions in Figure 16.

In Figure 16 the libraries of the Northeast are seen to have the greatest concentration of volumes, the Far West the next greatest, and the Southeast the smallest. Concentration in the case of public library book stocks is seen to follow somewhat the historical development of public libraries, with the Southeast and Southwest developing at a slower rate per 100 population than the other regions. The book resources of all the libraries of the Middle West and Far West, however, are seen to have in-

<sup>4</sup> This reveals a defect of standard scores as indices. One or more extreme cases may influence the average, and particularly the standard deviation, to such an extent as to affect materially the magnitude of the standard scores of the other states. Thus, the omission of New Hampshire from Table 9 would raise the standard score of Connecticut to 1.27 and would change that of Georgia to -0.99. All the others would be correspondingly altered.



creased at a more rapid rate than those of the Northeast. The rate of accession is 18.08 per 100 population for the Far West

TABLE 17\*  
STANDARD SCORES OF EIGHT STATES COMPARED IN  
TERMS OF LIBRARY RESOURCES AND  
ACQUISITIONS

STATE	STANDARD SCORE	
	Library Resources	Acquisitions
New Hampshire... . . . .	3 57	2 13
Connecticut... . . . .	1 01	1 77
Montana..... . . . .	0 16	0 34
Colorado..... . . . .	0.03	0 29
Minnesota... . . . .	-0 08	0 55
Kansas. . . . .	-0 49	-0 11
North Dakota.. . . .	-0 79	-0 54
Georgia..... . . . .	-0.93	-1 37

\* Source. Tables 9 and 16.

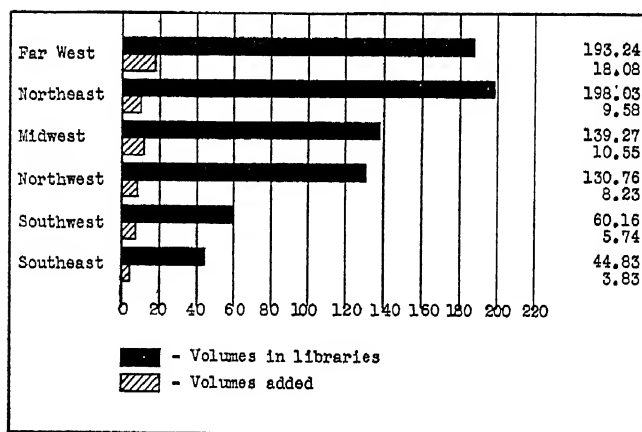


FIG. 16.—Regional summary of volumes, and of volumes added per 100 population, in libraries of 1,000 volumes, or more, reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929.

during 1928, 10.55 for the Middle West, 9.58 for the Northeast, and 3.83 for the Southeast.

The data given above are from totals for the respective re-

gions. The data which appear in Table 18 are drawn from selected public and university libraries of the six regions and are illustrative of the tendency of libraries which have large hold-

TABLE 18\*  
INCREASE OF VOLUMES IN SELECTED LIBRARIES, 1920-35

REGION	PLACE	VOLUMES		AVERAGE ANNUAL INCREASE		PER CENT OF INCREASE FROM 1920 TO 1935
		1920	1935	Volumes	Per Cent of 1920	
	University Libraries					
Northeast . . .	Harvard	2,028,000	3,696,620	111,241	5.49	82.28
Southeast . . .	North Carolina	93,914	278,347	12,295	13.09	196.38
Southwest . . .	Texas	183,263	490,345	20,472	11.17	167.56
Midwest. . . . .	Chicago	599,492	1,117,818	34,555	5.76	86.46
Northwest . . .	Colorado	120,468	273,853	10,225	8.49	127.32
Far West. . .	Stanford	319,872	635,873	21,066	6.59	98.79
Total. . . . .	.....	3,345,009	6,492,856	209,856	6.27	94.11
	Public Libraries					
Northeast . . .	Boston	1,197,498	1,673,609†	31,740	2.65	39.76
Southeast . . . .	Atlanta	77,780	185,906	7,208	9.27	139.00
Southwest . . . .	Houston	56,397†	167,004‡	7,373	13.07	196.11
Midwest. . . . .	Chicago	1,012,043†	1,578,589‡	37,769	3.73	55.98
Northwest . . . .	Denver	212,753†	374,444	10,779	5.07	76.00
Far West. . . . .	{San Francisco	237,334	470,467	15,542	6.55	98.23
	{Los Angeles	386,857	1,460,623	71,584	18.50	277.56
Total . . . . .	.....	3,180,662	5,910,642	181,999	5.72	85.83

\* Source: J. T. Gerould, comp., "Statistics of University Libraries, 1919-20"; "1934-35" (Mimeo.); private correspondence; and annual reports of public libraries.

† Figure for Dec. 31, 1919.

‡ Figure for Dec. 31, 1934.

ings to increase them in such way as to maintain their numerical superiority, even though the rate of increase from an arbitrary date is relatively less. For example, Harvard University, which has been adding to its collection at the rate of 111,241 volumes,

annually, for fifteen years, had a total of 3,696,620 volumes in 1934-35. Contrast with this the fact that the University of North Carolina had but 278,347 volumes in 1934-35, though it had had an average annual increase of 12,295 for the same period. When this rate of increase taken from 1919 to 1920 is expressed in terms of per cent, it is greater than that of Harvard. Facts like these go far in accounting for the location of the center of library holdings, which remains, as shown in chapter i, to the north and east of the center of the nation's population.

Figures 13 and 17 show the extent to which the inequality between states, with respect to library holdings and growth, carries over into smaller political units within a state. A range is found among the 102 counties of Illinois of from no libraries at all, and hence no library books, or acquisitions, each year in nine counties, to resources of over two volumes per capita, and annual acquisitions of over a tenth of a volume per capita, in two counties. In 21 counties, less than one-fourth of a volume is available to each inhabitant, while in 28 counties, at least one volume per capita is found.

A distinct difference in library resources between the northern and southern halves of Illinois may be noticed in these two figures, as well as in Figure 5, which showed the per cent of the population of each county in Illinois which resides in library districts. In Figure 17 it will be observed that no county south of the approximate center of the state, with the single exception of Alexander, is in either of the two highest intervals, and only five counties south of Greene and of Cumberland rank as high as the middle, or average, interval. In the main, the trend which prevails in Illinois is similar to that which prevails throughout the nation. Although there are many exceptions, the present trend in growth is apparently accentuating year by year the inequalities in distribution of resources which already exist.

#### DIFFERENCES IN QUALITY OF LIBRARY RESOURCES

The differences in volumes possessed by the libraries under review have been treated almost exclusively upon a quantitative

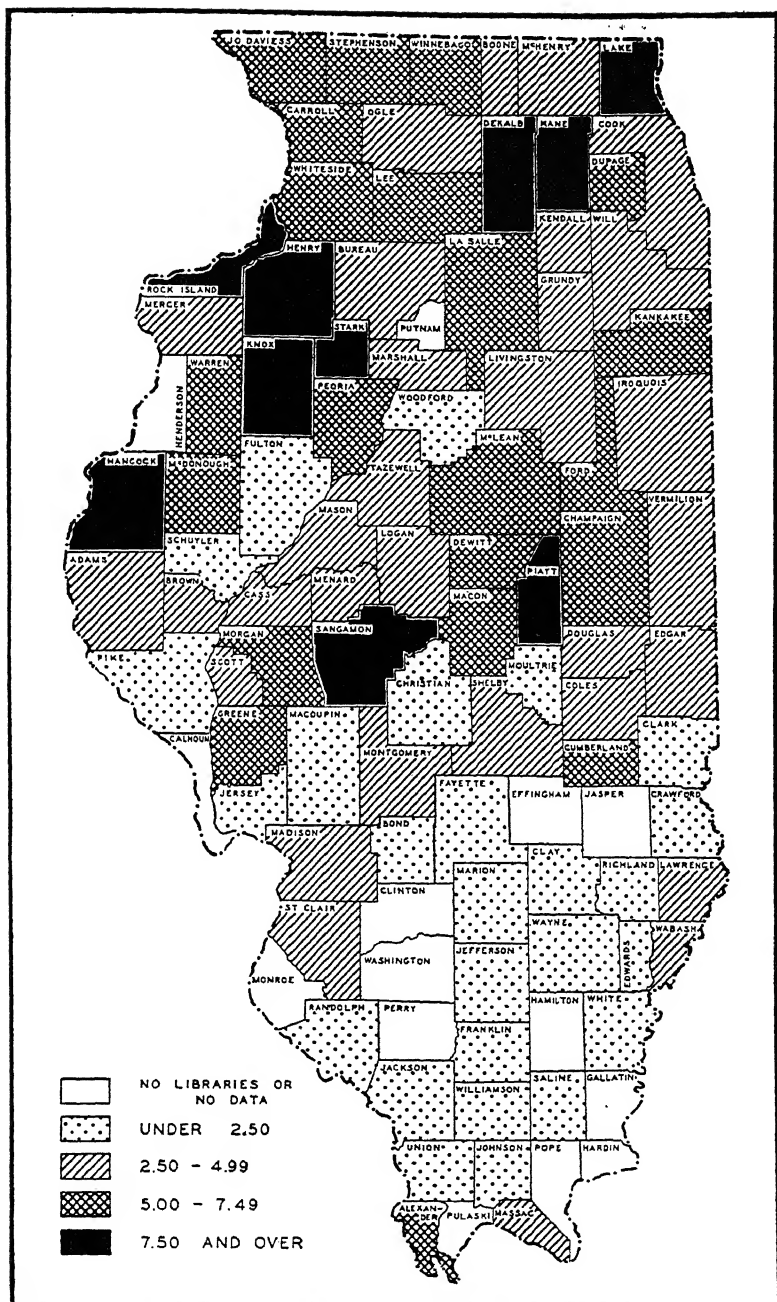


FIG. 17.—Volumes added per 100 population in Illinois public libraries (four-year average), 1929-32. Source: Computed from Illinois State Library, Library Extension Division, *Report for January 1, 1928 to December 31, 1929; 1930-31* (Springfield: State of Illinois, 1930; 1932), pp. 46-53; 32-91; Illinois State Library, Library Extension Division, *Statistics of the Libraries of Illinois, 1930; 1932* (Springfield: State of Illinois, 1931; 1933), pp. 13-56; 11-57.



basis. To consider them qualitatively is well-nigh impossible, as printed catalogs and critical descriptions of the contents of American libraries, public and otherwise, are available only in a very few instances. The descriptions of the collections in the Harvard library,<sup>5</sup> the New York Public,<sup>6</sup> and of southern<sup>7</sup> and Texas<sup>8</sup> libraries are valuable for this purpose. They offer a notable exception to the general rule. But even if more such descriptions were available, more adequate and exact standards of measure would be required for the successful evaluation and comparison of different collections.

While this is true, certain standards of measure have been developed for public library book collections. These standards show that there are differences in character of collections as well as in number of volumes. Even in the field of fiction, where the circulation frequently constitutes from 50 to 75 per cent of the total circulation of public libraries, different classes are recognized.<sup>9</sup> Juvenile is set over against adult; and within these two broad classes others are to be noted, ranging from the series type to the classic, in the former, and from the light love story to the good modern and classic, in the latter. Mr. Carnovsky, in the evaluation of book collections of seventy-eight public libraries in the metropolitan area of Chicago, developed five standard lists by which he checked the holdings of the various libraries of the area and showed their relative strength in the five fields.<sup>10</sup> From his findings, it was very evident that certain

<sup>5</sup> [A. C. Potter], *The Library of Harvard University: Descriptive and Historical Notes* (4th ed.; Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1934).

<sup>6</sup> H. M. Lydenberg, *A History of the New York Public Library: Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations* (New York: New York Public Library, 1923).

<sup>7</sup> American Library Association, Committee on Resources of Southern Libraries, "Summary of Information on Southern Research Libraries" (Mimeographed; Chicago: American Library Association, 1935).

<sup>8</sup> Texas Library Association, *Handbook of Texas Libraries, Number Four, 1935* (Houston, Texas: Texas Library Association, 1935).

<sup>9</sup> J. H. Foster, "An Approach to Fiction through the Characteristics of Its Readers," *Library Quarterly*, VI (1936), 124-74; L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), p. 118.

<sup>10</sup> Leon Carnovsky, "Public Library Book Collections," *Library Quarterly*, V (1935), 261-88.

libraries which possessed a high per cent of the titles contained in the five check lists were able to serve their patrons effectively. Their book resources were extensive, varied, and selected in such way as to insure library patrons that book needs could be adequately met. It was equally evident that other libraries were not so successful in providing book service which was adequate for their clienteles. The same method of checking, when applied to the public libraries of the entire state of Illinois, showed similar variations.<sup>11</sup> In a study of eleven county libraries in the Southwest and Southeast, which had received assistance from the Julius Rosenwald Fund to provide county-wide service for all residents, standards somewhat similar to those used by Mr. Carnovsky were employed, and other interesting variations were found in scope and range of the books and magazines held.<sup>12</sup> Book collections of the counties surveyed in these regions contained a rather high per cent of titles for juvenile readers, because ratio of children to adults in the total population was high. In California, where the ratio of children to adults was low, a greater per cent of adult titles was found. In comparing the libraries of institutions of higher education in the Southeast and the Southwest with those of other regions, it has been found that the book collections, generally, are far less extensive in those areas and are less suited to the support of research than are those in the Northeast, the Midwest, and the Far West. The collections were particularly deficient in bibliographical apparatus for the use of scholars and in their holdings in such practical subjects as electrical engineering, soil science, plant pathology, and animal husbandry.<sup>13</sup>

## SUMMARY

That there are differences in the character of book collections in different libraries within a given region, and in different re-

<sup>11</sup> Illinois State Library, Library Extension Division, "Report of the Survey of the Public Libraries of Illinois," *Illinois Libraries*, XVII (No. 2, 1935), 48-89.

<sup>12</sup> Wilson and Wight, *op. cit.*, p. 128.

<sup>13</sup> L. R. Wilson, "The Role of the Library in Higher Education in the South," *School and Society*, XLII (1935), 273-82.

gions, is obviously to be taken for granted. Descriptions and critical evaluations of collections, however, are not sufficiently available to justify any other generalizations than the very evident ones that the library needs of a region are more likely to be met by large collections than by small; that the excellence of collections is dependent, in part, upon the amount of money available for their acquisition and the knowledge and skill of those whose duty it is to select them; and that those cities, counties, states, and regions whose library resources have been only slightly developed are lacking not only in per capita holdings but in range and adequacy of holdings as well. The small inadequately and separately supported library found in hundreds of small American communities does make library service available, but only nominally. Its resources are so limited that it is a library in name, only, and falls distressingly short of providing the kind of service its patrons should receive.

It is likewise apparent that the law of "to him that hath shall be given" operates generally in the library field, although the data presented reveal variations in the degree of its application in different regions. Library coverage is gradually being extended; but while this is true, existing inequalities in per capita holdings and in the range of books in book collections tend to perpetuate themselves. Not only do the states that have a low percentage of coverage have the largest proportion of small, inadequate libraries within areas of theoretically complete coverage, but those states with the smallest per capita number of books available to their residents are purchasing fewer new books than those whose collections are more adequate.

The data in this chapter bear depressing testimony concerning the number of books, magazines, and other library materials available to the American public through the local free public library. They show unmistakably that these resources are largely lacking to one-third of the total population and that to another third they are obtainable only in a limited and distressingly inadequate quantity.

## CHAPTER III

### LIBRARY SUPPORT

THE *Geography of Reading* is concerned with the variations of library accessibility, library resources, and other aspects of library service, rather than with the causes which brought libraries into existence, the justification of their support, or the principles which underlie their various operations. Consequently, this chapter, which treats of the variation of public library support in the several states, will not concern itself with the interesting questions as to whether such support is adequate for the purposes intended, whether it should be borne solely by local political units such as towns, cities, and counties, or whether such units should be assisted in providing such support by the state and federal governments. The prevailing practice at present is that legislation providing for library service is permissive rather than mandatory<sup>1</sup> (as in the case of the support of schools, for which the state usually accepts considerable responsibility), and, consequently, the expense of support for libraries is borne almost exclusively by the local unit.

However, certain exceptions to this general rule should be noted. The constitution of Michigan expressly provides for both the establishment and the maintenance of public libraries. Article XI, section 14, reads:

The Legislature shall provide by law for the establishment of at least one library in each township and city; and all fines assessed and collected in the several counties, cities, and townships for any breach of the penal laws shall be exclusively applied to the support of such libraries.

New York, as early as 1835, passed the first state law providing for tax-supported, free library service, and in 1838 appropriated

<sup>1</sup> Lee Wachtel, "State Provisions for the Support of Municipal Public Libraries and Some Comparisons with State Provisions for the Support of Public Schools," *Library Quarterly*, LIII (1933), 373-89.

\$55,000 from its federal deposit funds as a stimulus to the founding of district libraries which should be open to the public.<sup>2</sup> Receipt of assistance was conditioned upon the matching of funds by the districts. The law was modified later, but limited state support under certain conditions is still provided. Forty years after the first New York law was enacted, a free public library law was passed by Rhode Island, authorizing the State Board of Education to pay a graduated bounty, up to \$500 a year, to each local library for the purchase of books, provided the sum was matched by local funds.<sup>3</sup>

It was Massachusetts, however, that gave impetus to the state aid movement, in 1890, by establishing a free public library commission and authorizing it to donate \$100 in books to any town upon the founding of a public library.<sup>4</sup> So effective was the work of this agency, that by 1904 every town in the state had received library service, and the effectiveness of state aid was demonstrated beyond reasonable doubt. New Hampshire, Connecticut, and other New England states passed laws differing from these in details, but for the same general purpose. Their state library agencies were charged with the responsibility of administering small grants-in-aid for libraries that met certain conditions.

Outside of New York and New England the practice has taken a number of forms, and since 1896 New Jersey and Louisiana have stimulated library development by furnishing a definite quota of books to libraries that comply with certain conditions at the time of their organization. Under the stimulus of the depression, Pennsylvania provided aid for county libraries on a sliding scale up to a maximum of \$2,500 for any one county. In 1935, Ohio and Illinois made funds available

<sup>2</sup> *Laws of the State of New York, 1835; 1838* (Albany: Printed by E. Croswell, Printer to the State, 1835; 1838), chap. 80; chap. 237, sec. 4.

<sup>3</sup> H. L. Koopman, "Library Progress in Rhode Island," *Library Journal*, XXXI (1906), 11.

<sup>4</sup> Massachusetts, Board of Free Public Library Commissioners, Division of Public Libraries, *Annual Report of the Board of Free Public Library Commissioners for the Year Ending November 30, 1930* (Boston: The Commission, 1930), p. 3.

for the biennium through special emergency appropriations of \$100,000 and \$600,000, respectively, with which to replenish book stocks of libraries that had been severely depleted during the depression. In 1936, Pennsylvania appropriated \$100,000 for the rehabilitation of libraries which had been severely damaged by the disastrous floods of the early spring.

During 1934, 1935, and 1936, many state library associations carefully considered the question of state participation in public library support, and in a number of states legislation providing state aid has been enacted. As a result of legislative action taken prior to August 1, 1937, the appropriation for Ohio for the biennium had been increased to \$150,000; a new appropriation of \$100,000 for two years had been made in Arkansas; \$25,000 for the biennium, in addition to the regular appropriation had been provided for four regional libraries in Vermont; and the appropriations of seven state library agencies had been increased.<sup>5</sup> In North Carolina and Tennessee state aid acts were passed, but without appropriations to put them into effect, though \$100,000 was appropriated for aid to school libraries in Tennessee. In Michigan public library development was assured through an act appropriating \$500,000 in 1938-39 and annually thereafter for state aid which is to be applied to the establishment of new libraries and to the support of libraries already in operation.

Although general practice is as has been stated, states have usually recognized their responsibility for support of library service by enacting general and special legislation which governs the establishment and administration of libraries, by maintaining state and legislative reference libraries, and by the establishment and support of state agencies for the stimulation and promotion of library service. Furthermore, the federal government, through its various emergency activities (as described in chapter i), has participated in the support of a number of local and state-wide library programs since 1933. Many library buildings have been erected or reconditioned through federal

<sup>5</sup> Correspondence with the American Library Association Library Extension Board.

assistance, and many workers have been supplied for special library projects.

The movement toward greater participation by the federal government in public library support was given additional impetus, in 1936, by the provision of an appropriation of \$25,000 by Congress for the inclusion in the U.S. Office of Education of a library agency which should promote library development in the United States, and by the adoption by the Council of the American Library Association of a resolution favoring aid to libraries by the federal government.<sup>6</sup> The functions of the new agency, while not concerned with library support, are defined in the statute as follows:

... for making surveys, studies, investigations, and reports regarding public, school, college, university, and other libraries; fostering coordination of public and school library service; coordinating library service on the national level with other forms of adult education; developing library participation in Federal projects; fostering Nation-wide coordination of research materials among the more scholarly libraries, inter-State library cooperation, and the development of public, school, and other library service throughout the country. ...<sup>7</sup>

Support for public libraries has also been derived from endowments and gifts. Comprehensive data which cover these classes of income and show their distribution have not, however, been collected since 1929, and in that instance were not specifically separated from like income for other types of libraries. The public libraries of Boston, Providence, and New York have notable endowments, and a considerable number of other cities have smaller sums, but the practice of endowing public libraries has been more largely confined to New England and the Northeast than to any other region, although examples are to be found in all sections of the country. The memorial library, also, is frequently found, but the support of the great majority of public libraries has been provided from public funds. Direct gifts

<sup>6</sup> American Library Association Council "[Proceedings], May 11, 15, 1936," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXX (1936), 606-15.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Congress, *Statutes at Large of the United States of America [Session Laws]*, 74th Cong., 2d Sess., Part I, "Public Acts and Resolutions" (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1936), chap. 691, p. 1797.

form a part of the annual income, but they are limited and play a minor role in public library support.

The total operating expenditures of public libraries in the United States for 1934 was \$45,855,400, or 37 cents per capita for the nation. The range was from \$1.08 per capita in Massachusetts to 2 cents in Arkansas and Mississippi.<sup>8</sup> This total, when considered in the terms of percentage of the total expenditures of the municipalities and counties which provided it, and as contrasted with the total percentages for other purposes, such as police protection or schools, is far too low.

Table 19 and Figures 18 and 19 give in detail the variations in per capita public library expenditure for the different states and regions. The data are for the entire populations of the states, as well as for the populations actually served. All general comparisons, however, are made only on the basis of total populations. This is true of every state including Massachusetts and Delaware, all of whose residents live in library service areas. The comparisons reveal the failure of all but one state, Massachusetts, to provide an annual income of one dollar per capita, the amount which the American Library Association has set as its standard. The standard of fifty cents per capita set by the Julius Rosenwald Fund, in 1929, for eleven demonstration county libraries in the Southeast and Southwest, charged with the responsibility of furnishing service to all residents of the county, rural and urban, white and black, in school or out, has been equaled by only nine states. Fifteen states spent amounts ranging from 10 cents down to 2. Inasmuch as these amounts are based on total populations rather than on populations actually served, they are to that extent not comparable with national standards. If the data concerning per capita expenditure for population served are contrasted with those given above, the national average rises from 37 to 59 cents, the minimum from 2 to 8 cents. The variation in West Virginia from 6 to 53 cents is especially marked.

<sup>8</sup> "Public Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXIX (1935), 252-53.



TABLE 19\*  
PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1934

STATE	RANK	EXPENDITURES			STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Capita		
			Total Population	Population Served	
Massachusetts..	1	\$4,596,618	\$1.08	\$1.08	3.27
California..	2	4,397,231	.77	.79	1.96
Connecticut..	3	1,193,003	.74	.75	1.84
Ohio.....	4	4,530,885	.68	.73	1.58
New York....	5	7,838,532	.62	.71	1.33
New Hampshire	6	277,286	.60	.60	1.24
Rhode Island..	7	403,881	.59	.61	1.20
New Jersey	7	2,393,179	.59	.62	1.20
Oregon ....	9	530,809	.56	.79	1.07
Illinois ....	10	3,751,468	.49	.66	0.78
Wyoming....	11	104,753	.46	.48	0.65
Wisconsin...	12	1,286,719	.44	.63	0.57
Delaware ..	13	103,463	.43	.43	0.52
Indiana....	13	1,394,335	.43	.59	0.52
Washington.....	15	653,724	.42	.70	0.48
Vermont.....	16	146,819	.41	.44	0.44
Nevada.....	17	35,884	.39	.59	0.35
Minnesota ..	17	984,870	.39	.64	0.35
Michigan...	19	1,822,694	.38	.50	0.31
Colorado...	20	319,574	.31	.55	0.02
Utah.....	20	155,087	.31	.46	0.02
Maryland ..	22	446,428	.27	.34	-0.15
Iowa.....	23	644,295	.26	.55	-0.19
Pennsylvania..	23	2,498,796	.26	.47	-0.19
Maine.....	25	196,658	.25	.33	-0.24
Missouri...	26	881,466	.24	.48	-0.28
Montana....	27	117,295	.22	.43	-0.36
Nebraska....	28	308,334	.22	.45	-0.36
South Dakota	29	143,141	.21	.68	-0.40
Kansas.....	30	347,261	.19	.39	-0.49
Idaho.....	31	80,783	.18	.58	-0.53
Florida ....	32	196,703	.13	.34	-0.74
Tennessee...	33	322,998	.12	.30	-0.79
North Dakota...	34	68,571	.10	.54	-0.87
Kentucky ....	34	258,013	.10	.26	-0.87
Oklahoma....	34	237,149	.10	.29	-0.87
South Carolina	34	168,832	.10	.25	-0.87
Texas.....	34	572,870	.10	.28	-0.87
Virginia.....	39	190,329	.08	.24	-0.96
Arizona....	40	28,968	.07	.10	-0.99
Georgia.....	41	196,147	.07	.24	-1.00
West Virginia	42	108,685	.06	.53	-1.04
Louisiana....	42	133,127	.06	.17	-1.04
Alabama....	42	157,013	.06	.18	-1.04
North Carolina	42	175,513	.06	.12	-1.04
New Mexico....	46	22,322	.05	.16	-1.08
Mississippi....	47	47,905	.02	.08	-1.21
Arkansas.....	47	30,127	.02	.11	-1.21

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 252-53.

Mean per capita (based on per capitas of the 48 states), \$0.31; standard deviation, \$0.236; U.S. total, \$45,955,400; U.S. per capita total population (including District of Columbia), \$0.37; U.S. expenditure per capita total population served, \$0.59.

Rank and standard scores are based on per capita per total population rather than per population served.

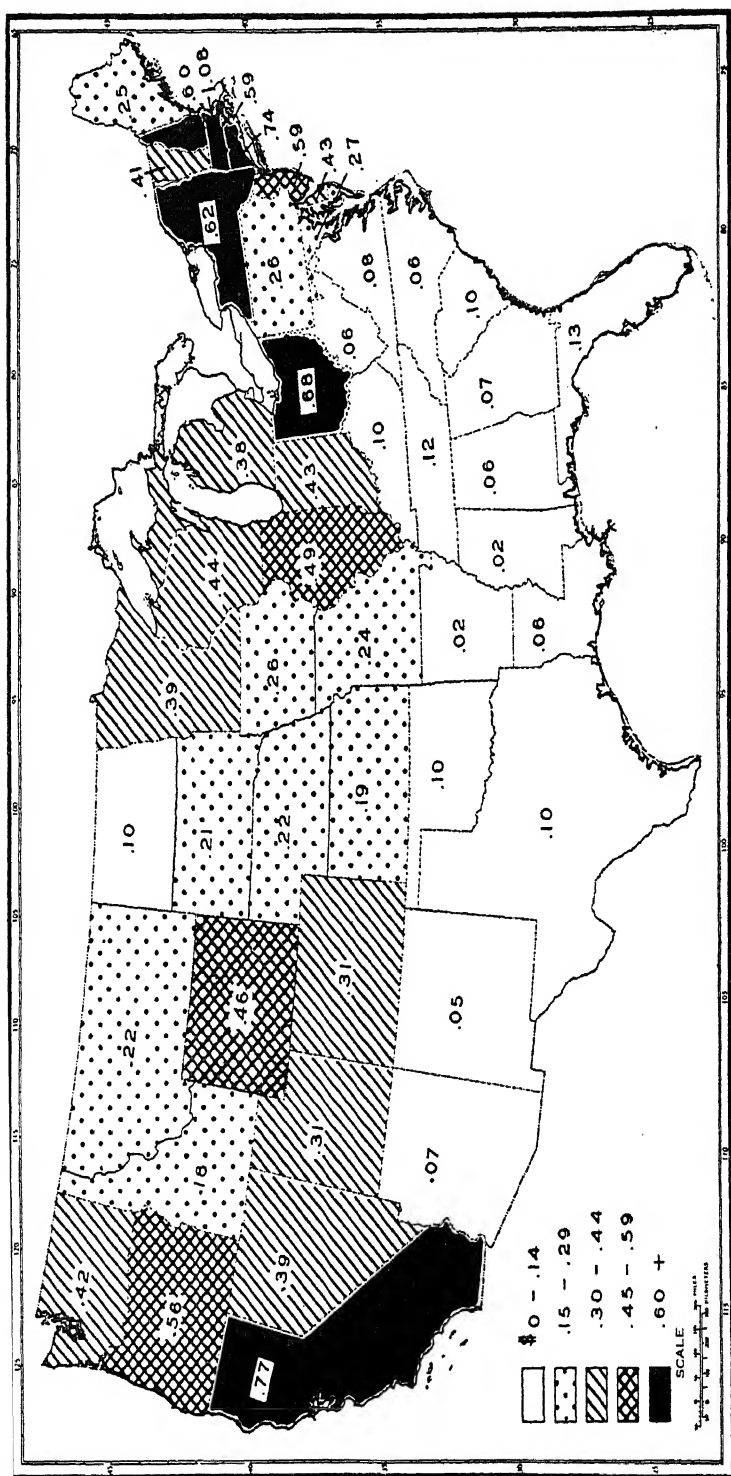


FIG. 18.—Per capita expenditure for public libraries, 1934. Source: Same as for Table 19. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

Table 20 shows the regional increase, or decrease, in per capita expenditure from 1926 to 1935. In spite of the depression, four of the regions increased their expenditures. The decrease in the Far West, from \$0.839 to \$0.678, though seemingly notable, was due not so much to an actual reduction in expendi-

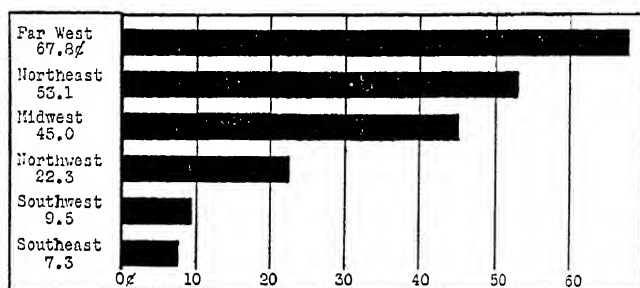


FIG. 19.—Regional summary of per capita expenditure for public libraries, 1934

TABLE 20\*

PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE (IN CENTS) FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES, BY REGION, 1926 AND 1935

Region	1926	1935	Increase
Northeast.....	\$0 415	\$0 531	\$0 116
Midwest....	.440	.450	.010
Southeast...	.066	.073	.007
Southwest . . .	.086	.095	.009
Northwest . . . . .	.229	.223	— .006
Far West.. . . .	0 839	0.678	—0 161

\* Source "Public Library Statistics," A L A, *Bull.* XXIX (1935), 252-53, A L A, Com. on Lib Ext, *Library Extension* (Chic. A.L.A., 1926), pp 122-23 Based on population figures from federal census of 1920 and of 1930

ture as to the very great increase in total population. The population in California, for example, increased from 3,426-861 in 1920 to 5,677,251 in 1930. Its corresponding increase in library expenditure was from \$3,709,682 in 1926 to \$4,397,231 in 1934. There was an actual increase, although the per capita rate declined on account of the very unusual increase in population.

TABLE 21\*  
PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE OF ILLINOIS PUBLIC LIBRARIES  
(FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE), 1929-33

County	Rank	Amount	Standard Score	County	Rank	Amount	Standard Score
Henry.....	1	\$0 671	2 41	Cumberland ...	52	\$0 228	-0 10
Lake .....	2	669	2 40	Marion .....	53	227	-0.11
Kane ....	3	637	2 22	Brown....	54	.221	-0.14
Peoria ....	4	618	2 11	Edgar ....	54	.221	-0.14
Piatt ...	5	.614	2 09	Cass .....	56	.218	-0.16
Winnebago ...	6	.612	2 08	Massac .....	57	.210	-0.20
Warren .....	7	.599	2 00	Mercer....	58	205	-0.23
Knox ....	8	.594	1 98	Lee .....	59	204	-0.24
Cook .....	9	.570	1 84	Fulton .....	60	197	-0.28
Rock Island ..	10	.512	1 51	Menard .....	61	189	-0 32
Du Page .....	11	.491	1.39	Jersey ....	62	181	-0 37
Sangamon .....	12	.485	1 36	Montgomery ..	63	175	-0 40
De Kalb .....	13	.465	1 24	Richland .....	64	173	-0 41
McLean .....	14	.456	1.19	Christian .....	65	166	-0 45
Carroll.....	15	.436	1 08	Woodford .....	66	159	-0 49
Macon .....	15	.436	1 08	Scott .....	67	.157	-0 51
Morgan .....	17	.412	0 94	Bond..	68	148	-0 56
Alexander.....	18	.405	0 90	Edwards.....	69	141	-0 60
La Salle..	19	.403	0 89	Jefferson.....	69	141	-0 60
Stephenson....	20	.392	0 83	Marshall.....	71	137	-0 62
Adams .....	21	.388	0 81	Moultrie .....	72	131	-0 65
Champaign ..	22	.383	0 78	Pike.....	72	131	-0 65
Stark .....	22	.383	0 78	Williamson....	72	131	-0 65
Whiteside .....	24	355	0 62	Shelby .....	75	130	-0 66
Jo Daviess .....	25	352	0 60	Schuyler.....	76	118	-0 73
De Witt .....	26	.330	0 48	Fayette.....	77	112	-0 76
Iroquois .....	27	319	0 41	Saline .....	77	.112	-0 76
Kankakee.....	28	318	0 41	Franklin .....	79	.109	-0 78
Ogle.....	29	312	0 37	Union.....	80	.106	-0 79
Will .....	30	308	0 35	Wayne .....	81	.099	-0 83
Tazewell .....	31	.307	0 35	Macoupin..	82	.093	-0 87
Livingston....	32	301	0.31	Clay .....	83	.079	-0 95
Mason .....	33	297	0.29	White .....	84	.076	-0.97
Vermilion .....	34	294	0.27	Jackson....	85	.073	-0 98
McDonough....	35	293	0 27	Hamilton .....	86	.061	-1 05
Bureau .....	36	292	0 26	Clark.....	87	.056	-1.08
Greene .....	37	287	0.23	Johnson .....	88	.054	-1 09
Logan .....	38	.280	0 19	Randolph .....	89	.048	-1 12
Ford.....	39	279	0 19	Clinton .....	90	.011	-1 33
Coles .....	40	270	0 14	Monroe.....	91	.009	-1.35
Crawford..	41	.269	0 13	Washington	92	.006	-1 36
Hancock .....	42	262	0 09	Perry .....	93	.003	-1 38
Lawrence ....	43	260	0 08	Calhoun .....	94	.000	-1 40
McHenry ....	44	259	0 07	Effingham..	94	.000	-1 40
Kendall .....	45	256	0 06	Gallatin....	94	.000	-1 40
Wabash.....	46	255	0 05	Hardin .....	94	.000	-1 40
St. Clair .....	47	252	0 03	Henderson....	94	.000	-1 40
Douglas .....	48	251	0 03	Jasper.....	94	.000	-1.40
Boone .....	49	249	0 02	Pope .....	94	.000	-1.40
Grundy .....	50	.249	0.02	Pulaski.....	94	.000	-1 40
Madison .....	50	0.249	0.02	Putnam....	94	0.000	-1.40

\* Source: Computed from Ill State Lib, Lib. Ext. Div., *Report for January 1, 1928 to December 31, 1929, 1930-31; 1932-33* (Springfield: State of Ill., 1930, 1932; 1934), pp. 38-45, 32-93; 27-51; Ill State Lib, Lib. Ext. Div., *Statistics of the Libraries of Illinois, 1930, 1932* (Springfield: State of Ill., 1931; 1933), pp. 13-57; 11-57.

Illinois mean per capita (based on means of the 102 counties), \$0 246, Illinois median, \$0.239, Illinois standard deviation, \$0 17615.

## VARIATIONS WITHIN A STATE

Variations in expenditure within states correspond in general with variations among the states within the nation, except that they are more pronounced. No state wholly lacks public libraries, whereas approximately 40 counties out of every 100 maintain no public library. Table 21, for Illinois, admirably illustrates this condition. The variation is from a high of \$0.67 per capita, for Henry County, to no local expenditure whatever in 9

TABLE 22\*

## PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE OF COUNTY LIBRARIES

County Libraries	Number of Counties	High	Median	Low
<i>Group I:</i>				
Serving all, or most of county . . . . .	27	\$1.390	\$0.666	\$0.189
<i>Group II:</i>				
Omitting service to county seat, and possibly other sections . . . . .	25	1.111	0.581	0.199
<i>Group III:</i>				
Serving headquarters, city, and county . .	7	0.363	0.234	0.111
<i>Group IV:</i>				
County served through contract. . . . .	23	1.160	0.262	0.045

\* Source "County Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXX (1936), 115-21.

counties. The services of the state library agency were, of course, available to these 9 counties; and since 1935, service has been provided in portions of the unserved areas through federal library projects directed by the state agency. The distributions are estimated on a per capita basis for the total population of each county, and not for the population served, as Warren County is the only one of the 102 counties which maintains service on a county-wide basis.

The data in Tables 19 and 21 have related to variations in support when total populations, rather than populations actually served, were considered. Tables 22 and 23 show variations in support when only the populations served are considered. Table 22 relates to county populations served by four

groups of counties, all of which provide a total of \$4,500 or more for library service. Populations served range from 589,356 in Hamilton County, Ohio, to 6,763 in Wasco County, Oregon. The basis of grouping is by plan of serving the county, rather than by population size, as in the case of groupings for cities. The ranking expenditures per capita for the four groups are \$1.39 for Plumas County, California; \$1.11 for Tehama County, California; \$0.36 for Richland County, Ohio; and \$1.16 for Wasco County, Oregon, as contrasted with the ranking cities in four groups from 200,000, or more, down to 10,000-34,999; \$1.67 for Cleveland, Ohio; and \$2.17 for Bangor, Maine. The bases of comparison, however, are so uneven that none can be carried out in an entirely valid manner, since selection of both counties and cities is necessarily arbitrary.

TABLE 23\*

PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES SERVING  
CITY POPULATIONS FROM 200,000, OR  
MORE, TO 10,000, 1935

Population	Number of Cities	High	Median	Low
200,000 and over . . . . .	43	\$1.67	\$0.58	\$0.17
100,000-199,999 . . . . .	41	1.03	0.55	0.17
35,000- 99,999 . . . . .	43	1.73	0.76	0.22
10,000- 34,999 . . . . .	38	2.17	0.69	0.33

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 258-77

#### VARIATIONS WITHIN CITIES

Table 23 summarizes data concerning the expenditure per capita in 165 cities grouped according to population. The American Library Association's standard of one dollar per capita does not recognize differences due to urban or rural conditions, to density or sparsity of population, or to number of population. It is in reality an urban standard, having been arrived at almost exclusively on the basis of city data, since data for county and rural service have not been as extensively collected as those for cities.

The cities ranking high in these four groups are, as indicated above, Cleveland, Ohio, \$1.67; Bridgeport, Connecticut, \$1.03; Cleveland Heights, Ohio, \$1.73; and Bangor Maine, \$2.17.

TABLE 24\*  
PER CAPITA LIBRARY EXPENDITURE IN CITIES OVER 30,000, 1904-33

City-Size Group	1904	1910	1921	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Operating Expenditure								
30,000-50,000 . . . .	\$0 13	\$0 20	\$0 33	\$0 48	\$0 49	\$0 49		.. ..
50,000-100,000 .. .	0 14	0 18	0 29	0 48	0 51	0 51	.. .	.
100,000-300,000 ...	0 17	0 21	0 35	0 54	0 58	0 59	\$0 58	\$0 49
300,000-500,000 ..	0 20	0 29	0 44	0 76	0 73	0 79	0 76	0 59
500,000 and over. . .	0 24	0 34	0 38	0 63	0 66	0 65	0 59	0 53
Total over 30,000	0 19	0 27	0 37	0 59	0 61	0 61	.	
Total over 100,000 .	0 22	0 30	0 30	0 62	0 64	0 65	0 59	0 53
Capital Expenditure								
30,000-50,000 . . .	\$0 14	\$0 03	\$0 05	\$0 13	\$0 13	\$0.11	.. .	.. .
50,000-100,000. . .	0 11	0 04	0 05	0 15	0 13	0 21	..	....
100,000-300,000. . .	0 09	0 04	0 05	0 18	0 20	0 15	\$0 09	\$0 05
300,000-500,000. . .	0 22	0 08	0 03	0 22	0 18	0 17	0 11	0 07
500,000 and over. . .	0 23	0 21	0 03	0 17	0 20	0 19	0 15	0 06
Total over 30,000 ..	0 17	0.12	0.04	0 17	0 18	0 18	..	.. .
Total over 100,000 .	0 19	0 14	0 04	0 18	0 20	0 18	0 13	0 06
Total Expenditure								
30,000-50,000 . . .	\$0 27	\$0.23	\$0 29	\$0 60	\$0 62	\$0 60	..	.....
50,000-100,000 . . .	0 25	0 22	0 26	0 63	0 64	0 71	..	... ..
100,000-300,000 . . .	0 26	0 25	0 32	0.72	0 79	0 74	\$0 64	\$0.54
300,000-500,000 . . .	0 43	0 37	0 32	0 98	0.91	0 95	0 81	0 67
500,000 and over . . .	0 47	0 54	0 37	0 80	0 86	0 84	0 74	0 60
Total over 30,000 ..	0 37	0 38	0 32	0 76	0 79	0 79	..	... ..
Total over 100,000..	0.41	0 44	0 34	0 80	0.84	0 83	0 72	0 59

\* Source Compiled from U.S. Bur Census, *Financial Statistics of Cities Having a Population of Over 30,000, 1904-31* (Wash. Govt Print Off., 1906-33), U.S. Bur Census, *Financial Statistics of Cities Having a Population of Over 100,000, 1932-34* (Wash. Govt Print Off., 1934-36)

Tables 24 and 25 carry the analysis farther and show: (1) the library expenditure per capita, 1904-33, in cities over 30,000,

as computed in *Financial Statistics of Cities, 1904-34*,<sup>9</sup> and (2) the per cent of municipal expenditure devoted to libraries for the same cities during the same period. These tables bring out clearly: (a) the increase in per capita operating expenditure from 1904 to 1933 (with variations in the depression period);

TABLE 25\*

PER CENT OF MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURE DEVOTED TO LIBRARIES  
IN CITIES OVER 30,000, 1904-33

City-Size Group	1904	1910	1921	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Operating Expenditure								
30,000-50,000. ....	1.2	1.8	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	...	.....
50,000-100,000 ...	1.2	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.4	...	.....
100,000-300,000. . .	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5
300,000-500,000. ....	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.3
500,000 and over. ....	1.3	1.6	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0
Total over 30,000	1.3	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	.....	.....
Total over 100,000	1.3	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1
Capital Expenditure								
30,000-50,000. ....	2.9	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.8	1.0	.....	.....
50,000-100,000. . . .	1.9	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.8	1.6	.....	.....
100,000-300,000. ....	1.3	0.4	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.3
300,000-500,000. ....	3.5	0.7	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8
500,000 and over. ....	1.9	1.9	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Total over 30,000 .	2.0	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.9	.....	.....
Total over 100,000 ..	2.0	1.3	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9

\* Source: Compiled from U.S. Bur. Census, *Financial Statistics of Cities Having a Population of Over 30,000: 1904-31*; U.S. Bur. Census, *Financial Statistics of Cities Having a Population of Over 100,000 1932-34*.

(b) the variations in capital expenditure; (c) the general decline for both in 1932 and 1933; and (d) the fairly consistent per cent of the total operating expenditure of municipalities devoted to libraries throughout the entire period.

From all of these tables it is evident that the standard of per

<sup>9</sup> This series (which began in 1902) varies in title. The series for "30,000 population" was ended in 1931. After that the figure in the title was changed to read "100,000."



capita support recommended by the American Library Association is far from realized, and that the library is receiving comparatively an exceedingly small part of the taxpayer's dollar. For all cities of 100,000 population, or more, the library received in 1933, 1.1 per cent of the total operating expenses, as contrasted with 3.5 for recreation and 31.4 for schools, with which it is generally associated.

#### VARIATION IN METROPOLITAN AREAS

In chapter i the drift of American population to the city and the increase in the number of metropolitan areas were pointed out as having marked significance for library development. Accessibility of service was seen to be definitely related to urban and metropolitan growth. Variation in library expenditure in such areas is also noteworthy, and the problem of providing such support in them is one of the most perplexing which confronts librarians today. The metropolitan library finds itself called upon to provide library resources, many of which are used by suburban residents who make no direct contribution to their provision. Annexation by the city for taxing purposes is exceedingly difficult, and suburban communities incorporate and provide library service on an individual basis. The result is that the metropolitan library is less able to provide adequate service and that varying standards of support exist side by side in different communities in the metropolitan region. Figure 20 graphically portrays the differences in expenditure of the eighty satellite communities in the metropolitan area of Boston.<sup>10</sup> The differences were as great as 13 to 1. Eleven of the communities spent in 1932 less than 50 cents per capita, while six of them spent more than \$1.75 per capita.

#### OTHER FACTS TO BE CONSIDERED

In presenting the tables and figures dealing with financial support, it is obvious that such information may be more useful

<sup>10</sup> C. B. Joeckel, *The Government of the American Public Library* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), p. 282.

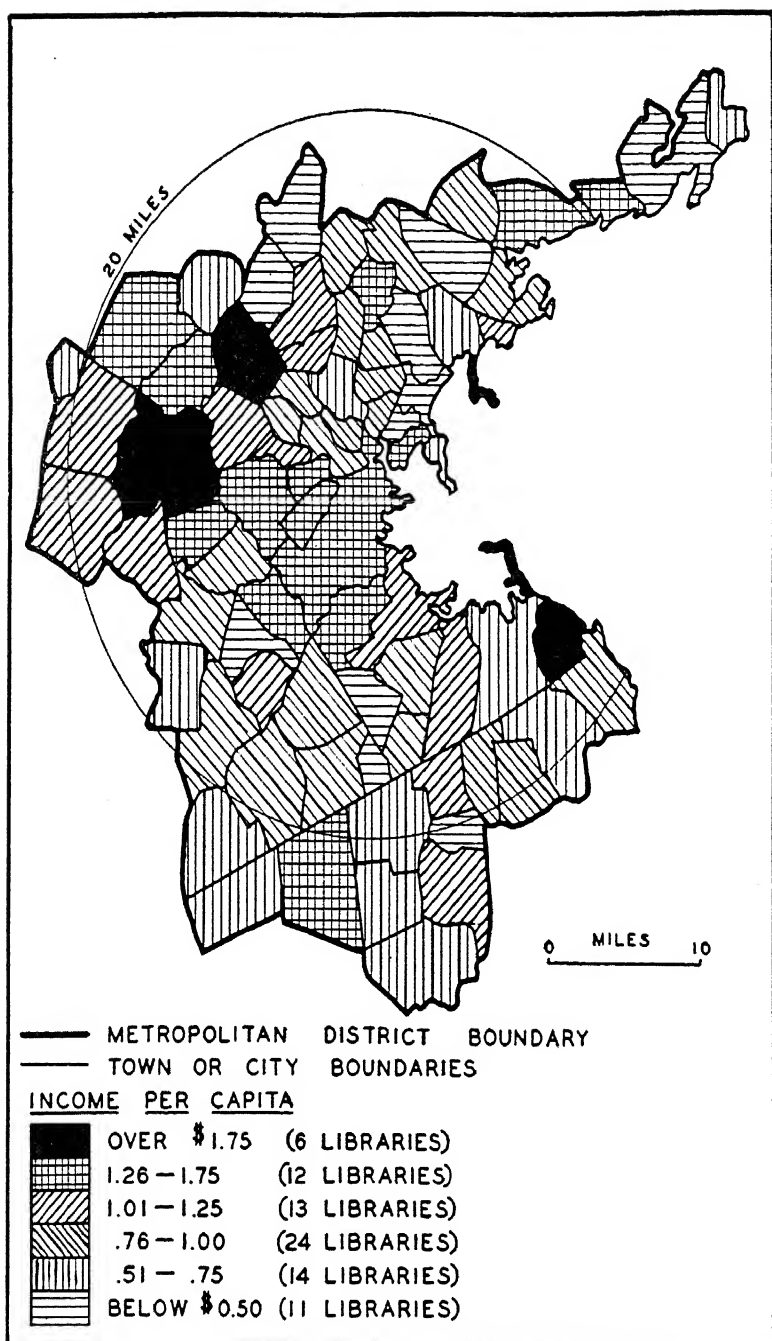


FIG. 20.—Public library income in metropolitan Boston, 1932. Source: C. B. Joeckel, *The Government of the American Public Library* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), p. 282.

in placing the library than some of the other measures which have been, or will be, used. The dollar is both a general and a fairly consistent standard of measure. But it must be kept in mind that no unit of measurement is absolute for all sections of the country. In spite of the universality of the dollar, there is variation in the cost of living, salaries, rents, light, heat, freight rates, and other expenses in different regions. Mr. Gee has

TABLE 26\*  
INDEX OF COST OF LIVING

State	Rank	Index	State	Rank	Index	State	Rank	Index
New York . .	1	1.25	Delaware	16	1.14	Vermont . .	31	1.08
Nevada . . .	2	1.24	Iowa. . .	16	1.14	Oklahoma . .	34	1.07
New Jersey .	3	1.21	Minnesota . . .	16	1.14	Kentucky . . .	35	1.06
California . . .	4	1.20	Pennsylvania	16	1.14	Maine . . .	35	1.06
Connecticut . .	5	1.16	South Dakota	16	1.14	West Virginia .	35	1.06
Massachusetts .	5	1.16	Washington .	16	1.14	Texas . . .	38	1.05
Nebraska . . .	5	1.16	Colorado . . .	23	1.13	Virginia . . .	38	1.05
Wyoming . . .	5	1.16	Maryland . . .	23	1.13	Florida . . .	40	1.04
Illinois . . . .	9	1.15	Idaho . . . .	25	1.12	Louisiana .	40	1.04
Michigan . . . .	9	1.15	Indiana . . . .	25	1.12	North Carolina .	40	1.04
Montana . . . .	9	1.15	New Hampshire	25	1.12	Tennessee . . .	40	1.04
Ohio . . . . .	9	1.15	Kansas . . . .	28	1.11	South Carolina	44	1.03
Oregon . . . . .	9	1.15	North Dakota	28	1.11	Alabama . . . .	45	1.02
Rhode Island .	9	1.15	Missouri . . . .	30	1.10	Arkansas . . . .	45	1.02
Wisconsin . . .	9	1.15	New Mexico . . .	31	1.08	Georgia . . . . .	45	1.02
Arizona . . . . .	16	1.14	Utah . . . . .	31	1.08	Mississippi . . .	48	1.00

\* Source P. R. Mort, *Federal Support for Public Education* (N.Y. Bur. Pubs., T.C.C.U., 1936), Table 15, p. 105.

U.S. mean (based on indices of the 48 states), 1.11, U.S. median, 1.13.

shown these variations in the cost of living, in the case of the living expenses of professors in institutions of higher learning, to be comparatively slight.<sup>11</sup> Mr. Mort, on the contrary, has found these variations to be considerable, when all elements of the population are included. They range, on an index basis, from 1.00 to 1.25. In general, he found that states with high per cents of urban population have higher living costs and that the maxi-

<sup>11</sup> Wilson Gee, *Research Barriers in the South* (London: Century Company, 1932), pp. 52-67.

mum is reached in cities like Chicago and New York where the index is 1.29.<sup>12</sup> Table 26 shows variation by states.

#### OTHER FACTORS OF EXPENSE

Other factors, also, must not be overlooked whenever expense is involved. Density and sparsity of population, climatic differences, and topographic obstacles require attention. Furthermore, it is to be kept in mind that a proper ratio must be maintained between the number of individuals served and the per capita support required to provide efficient administration. The per capita cost of providing basic book collections and effective administration increases relatively if the total population served drops below a given number. This, as will be seen later, is one of the reasons given for the recent comparatively slow development of the county library. The population of many counties is too small to provide an adequate spread of the general charges of administration. Mr. Joeckel has advocated a minimum budget of \$25,000 for the effective administration of a county or a regional library.<sup>13</sup> Miss Stewart has placed the amount as ranging from \$15,000 to \$20,000.<sup>14</sup> In the report on library service in eleven counties in the South, it was pointed out that few of the counties with less than \$10,000,000 assessed valuation maintain county libraries;<sup>15</sup> and an earlier investigation has shown that it is very difficult for a community of less than 4,000 population to maintain independently adequate library service, and that to do this a minimum of \$4,000, annually, is required.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>12</sup> P. R. Mort, *Federal Support for Public Education* (New York: Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, 1936), Table 15, p. 105.

<sup>13</sup> Joeckel, *The Government of the American Public Library*, pp. 316-17.

<sup>14</sup> H. G. Stewart, "Advantages and Difficulties in the Administration of a Regional Library Unit," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXVIII (1934), 606.

<sup>15</sup> L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), p. 181.

<sup>16</sup> J. H. Kolb, *Service Institutions for Town and Country*, University of Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, Research Bulletin, No. 66 (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1925).

## SUPPORT FOR ALL LIBRARY PURPOSES

The data presented thus far in this chapter have related to differences in expenditure for public libraries. Additional tables, maps, and summaries extend the information concerning the variations in the expenditure of all libraries, in payment of salaries, and in purchase of books, as reported to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929. The total expenditures for all libraries, including college, university, school, society, and public, were \$69,294,121 in 1929, or 65 cents per capita. Of this total, \$52,620,896 was supplied through taxes and public appropriations, and the remainder came from endowment, dues, gifts, and other sources.<sup>17</sup>

Unfortunately, no analysis of this per capita expenditure for all libraries is available. From the data relating to public libraries, exclusively, it is evident that, in 1934, 37 cents per capita was the average amount devoted to their support throughout the nation. Mr. Randall has found that the average per student expenditure for library purposes in twenty selected liberal arts colleges is \$32; for colleges in general, based on a random sample of 95 colleges, it is \$17.42.<sup>18</sup> In Mr. Works' study, in 1925, of the budgets of a selected list of college and university libraries, he found that expenditures ranged from 7.0 to 2.2 per cent of the total educational budgets of the institutions concerned.<sup>19</sup> The reports from state departments of education offer evidence that some states fail to require their elementary and secondary schools to include in their budgets some fixed amount for school library support, while others require amounts varying from 3 cents per pupil in daily average attendance (as in North Carolina in 1935-36) to \$25 per teacher

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Office of Education, *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries*, 1929, Bulletin 1930, No. 37 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1931), p. 2.

<sup>18</sup> W. M. Randall and F. L. D. Goodrich, *Principles of College Library Administration* (Chicago: American Library Association and University of Chicago Press, 1936), p. 218.

<sup>19</sup> G. A. Works, *College and University Library Problems* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1927), Table D, pp. 122A-122B.

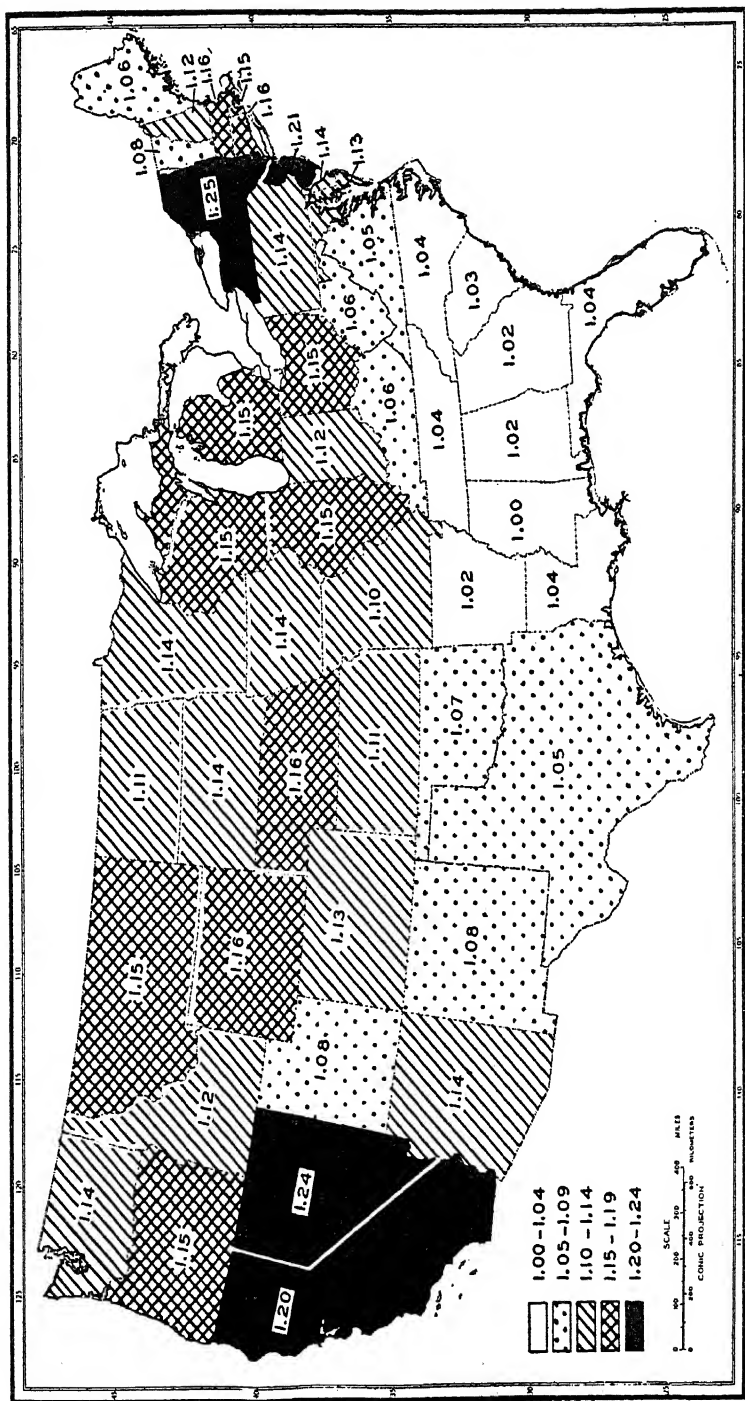


FIG. 21.—Index of cost of living. Source: Same as for Table 26. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

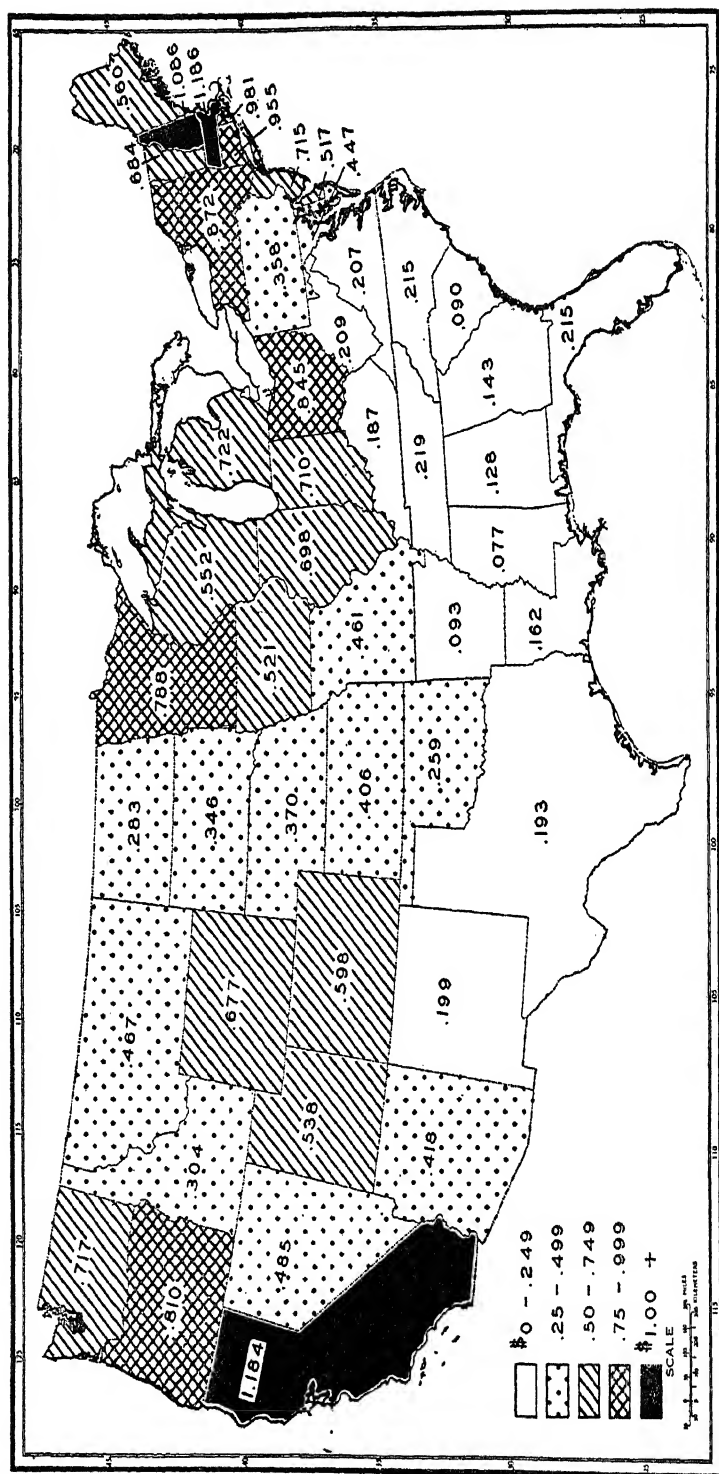


FIG. 22.—Per capita expenditure of libraries of 1,000 volumes, or more, reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929. Source: Same as for Table 27. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

(as in unincorporated schools in California).<sup>20</sup> Regional accrediting agencies have also set up standards of support for school libraries; but analyses of the reports on a nation-wide basis showing per student expenditure for these purposes since 1929 are not available.

#### CONFORMITY OF EXPENDITURES TO LIBRARY MAP PATTERN

A careful examination of the tables and maps—especially the maps—which have been used in chapters i, ii, and iii, will reveal a fairly definite library pattern for the nation. If, for example, the map dealing with differences in public library expenditures (Fig. 22) is compared with the map showing differences in population served (Fig. 1), or differences in number of volumes added (Fig. 15), a very marked similarity in the map patterns will be seen. Again, if the data in Table 27 and Figure 22 concerning the expenditure of all libraries of 1,000, or more, volumes reporting to the Office of Education in 1929, are compared with those in Table 19 and Figure 18, which deal with per capita expenditure for public libraries, alone, in 1934, the similarity of the pattern will be seen to be further emphasized. While a more exact comparison can be made on the basis of the standard scores in Tables 19 and 27, the fact begins to emerge in the similarity of the white, shaded, and solid black areas of Figures 18 and 22 that there is a library map, or geography of reading, of the United States, which has fairly definite boundaries and characteristic features. The summary in chapter vii, however, will deal more specifically with the relationships of these various factors.

#### EXPENDITURE FOR BOOKS AND SALARIES

Tables 28 and 29 and Figures 23 and 24 present additional data concerning expenditure for books and salaries, the two major items of expense incurred, in all libraries of 3,000 volumes, or more, reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929. Naturally, both maps (Figs. 23 and 24) are very similar, and

<sup>20</sup> Wilson and Wight, *op. cit.*, pp. 146-47.



TABLE 27\*

PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE FOR LIBRARIES OF 1,000 VOLUMES, OR MORE,  
REPORTING TO THE U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION IN 1929

STATE	RANK	EXPENDITURE FOR LIBRARIES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Capita	
Massachusetts . . . . .	1	\$ 5,040,879	\$1 186	2 31
California . . . . .	2	6,720,062	1 184	2 30
New Hampshire . . . . .	3	505,498	1 086	1 97
Rhode Island . . . . .	4	674,523	981	1 62
Connecticut . . . . .	5	1,534,648	955	1 53
New York . . . . .	6	10,973,425	872	1 26
Ohio . . . . .	7	5,618,712	845	1 17
Oregon . . . . .	8	772,945	.810	1 05
Minnesota . . . . .	9	2,019,405	.788	0 97
Michigan . . . . .	10	3,498,315	.722	0 75
Washington . . . . .	11	1,120,567	.717	0 74
New Jersey . . . . .	12	2,889,240	.715	0 73
Indiana . . . . .	13	2,297,879	.710	0 71
Illinois . . . . .	14	5,322,722	.698	0 67
Vermont . . . . .	15	246,123	.684	0 63
Wyoming . . . . .	16	152,738	.677	0 60
Colorado . . . . .	17	618,972	.598	0 34
Maine . . . . .	18	446,183	.560	0 21
Wisconsin . . . . .	19	1,620,909	.552	0 18
Utah . . . . .	20	273,223	.538	0 14
Iowa . . . . .	21	1,286,158	.521	0 08
Delaware . . . . .	22	123,351	.517	0 07
Nevada . . . . .	23	44,137	.485	-0 04
Montana . . . . .	24	250,967	.467	-0 10
Missouri . . . . .	25	1,673,322	.461	-0 12
Maryland . . . . .	26	729,668	.447	-0 17
Arizona . . . . .	27	182,034	.418	-0 26
Kansas . . . . .	28	763,225	.406	-0 30
Nebraska . . . . .	29	509,587	.370	-0 43
Pennsylvania . . . . .	30	3,448,614	.358	-0 47
South Dakota . . . . .	31	239,964	.346	-0 51
Idaho . . . . .	32	135,173	.304	-0 65
North Dakota . . . . .	33	192,513	.283	-0 72
Oklahoma . . . . .	34	620,197	.259	-0 80
Tennessee . . . . .	35	573,338	.219	-0 93
Florida . . . . .	36	314,948	.215	-0 94
North Carolina . . . . .	36	681,238	.215	-0 94
West Virginia . . . . .	38	362,124	.209	-0 96
Virginia . . . . .	39	501,631	.207	-0 97
New Mexico . . . . .	40	84,302	.199	-1 00
Texas . . . . .	41	1,125,172	.193	-1 02
Kentucky . . . . .	42	490,025	.187	-1 04
Louisiana . . . . .	43	339,855	.162	-1 12
Georgia . . . . .	44	416,537	.143	-1 19
Alabama . . . . .	45	338,984	.128	-1 24
Arkansas . . . . .	46	171,916	.093	-1 35
South Carolina . . . . .	47	155,791	.090	-1 36
Mississippi . . . . .	48	154,843	.077	-1 41

\* Source: U.S. Off. Educ., *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*, Bull 1930, No. 37 (Wash. Govt Print Off., 1931), pp. 11-13.

Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$0 407, standard deviation, \$0 0299, U.S. total, \$69,294,121, U.S. expenditure per capita (including District of Columbia), \$0 564.

TABLE 28\*

PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE FOR BOOKS IN LIBRARIES OF 3,000 VOLUMES,  
OR MORE, REPORTING TO THE U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION IN 1929

STATE	RANK	EXPENDITURE FOR BOOKS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Capita	
California . . . . .	1	\$1,822,208	\$0.321	2 75
New Hampshire . . . . .	2	142,557	.306	2.54
Rhode Island . . . . .	3	178,965	.260	1.89
Massachusetts . . . . .	4	1,030,515	.242	1.64
Connecticut . . . . .	5	376,736	.234	1.53
Ohio . . . . .	6	1,344,640	.202	1 09
Wyoming . . . . .	7	43,939	.195	0 99
New York . . . . .	8	2,360,873	.188	0 89
Minnesota . . . . .	8	482,741	.188	0 89
Oregon . . . . .	10	169,190	.177	0 74
Indiana . . . . .	11	538,946	.166	0 58
New Jersey . . . . .	11	672,626	.166	0 58
Nevada . . . . .	13	14,467	.159	0 49
Vermont . . . . .	13	57,095	.159	0 49
Washington . . . . .	15	246,490	.158	0.47
Colorado . . . . .	16	161,327	.156	0 44
Michigan . . . . .	17	748,963	.155	0 43
Illinois . . . . .	18	1,174,054	.154	0.42
Maine . . . . .	19	110,861	.139	0.21
Iowa . . . . .	20	337,919	.137	0.18
Wisconsin . . . . .	21	384,725	.131	0.09
Arizona . . . . .	22	56,806	.130	0.08
Delaware . . . . .	23	29,021	.122	-0 03
Utah . . . . .	23	62,074	.122	-0.03
Maryland . . . . .	25	197,702	.121	-0.04
Missouri . . . . .	26	410,407	.113	-0.16
Kansas . . . . .	27	192,418	.102	-0.31
Montana . . . . .	28	54,522	.101	-0.32
South Dakota . . . . .	29	62,158	.090	-0.48
Nebraska . . . . .	30	120,600	.088	-0.50
North Carolina . . . . .	31	264,952	.084	-0.56
Pennsylvania . . . . .	32	760,558	.079	-0 63
Idaho . . . . .	33	34,905	.078	-0 64
Oklahoma . . . . .	34	181,213	.076	-0.67
Tennessee . . . . .	35	188,068	.072	-0 73
North Dakota . . . . .	36	44,196	.065	-0 83
Texas . . . . .	37	354,525	.061	-0 88
New Mexico . . . . .	37	25,907	.061	-0 88
West Virginia . . . . .	39	103,278	.060	-0 90
Virginia . . . . .	40	138,778	.057	-0 94
Florida . . . . .	41	76,920	.052	-1 01
Louisiana . . . . .	42	97,043	.046	-1 09
Kentucky . . . . .	43	99,857	.038	-1.20
Georgia . . . . .	44	108,160	.037	-1 22
Alabama . . . . .	45	96,554	.036	-1 23
Arkansas . . . . .	46	60,169	.032	-1.29
Mississippi . . . . .	47	47,118	.023	-1.41
South Carolina . . . . .	48	37,224	0 021	-1 44

TABLE 29\*

PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE FOR SALARIES IN LIBRARIES OF 3,000 VOLUMES, OR MORE, REPORTING TO THE U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION IN 1929

STATE	RANK	EXPENDITURE FOR SALARIES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Capita	
Massachusetts . . . . .	1	\$2,827,269	\$0 665	2 36
California . . . . .	2	3,718,820	.655	2 30
Rhode Island . . . . .	3	371,305	.540	1 62
New Hampshire . . . . .	4	244,854	.526	1 53
Connecticut . . . . .	5	835,782	.520	1 50
New York . . . . .	6	6,257,645	.497	1 36
Ohio . . . . .	7	3,228,594	.485	1 30
Oregon . . . . .	8	461,372	.483	1 28
Minnesota . . . . .	9	1,107,436	.431	0 98
Michigan . . . . .	10	2,056,689	.424	0 94
Washington . . . . .	11	662,689	.423	0 93
Illinois . . . . .	12	3,133,800	.410	0 85
New Jersey . . . . .	13	1,607,917	.397	0 78
Indiana . . . . .	14	1,243,780	.384	0 70
Colorado . . . . .	15	339,522	.327	0 36
Vermont . . . . .	15	117,709	.327	0 36
Wyoming . . . . .	15	73,750	.327	0 36
Wisconsin . . . . .	18	870,647	.296	0 18
Delaware . . . . .	18	70,590	.296	0 18
Utah . . . . .	20	146,609	.288	0 13
Montana . . . . .	21	149,561	.278	0 07
Iowa . . . . .	22	678,501	.274	0 05
Maryland . . . . .	23	423,276	.259	-0 04
Missouri . . . . .	24	937,204	.258	-0 05
Nevada . . . . .	25	22,784	.250	-0 10
Maine . . . . .	26	172,630	.216	-0 29
Kansas . . . . .	27	398,894	.212	-0 32
Pennsylvania . . . . .	28	1,976,900	.205	-0 36
Arizona . . . . .	29	89,149	.204	-0 36
Nebraska . . . . .	30	254,042	.184	-0 48
South Dakota . . . . .	31	118,401	.170	-0 56
Idaho . . . . .	32	70,749	.159	-0 63
North Dakota . . . . .	33	102,653	.150	-0 68
Oklahoma . . . . .	34	303,616	.126	-0 83
Virginia . . . . .	35	283,480	.117	-0 88
Tennessee . . . . .	36	276,697	.105	-0 95
Florida . . . . .	36	154,369	.105	-0 95
Kentucky . . . . .	38	267,190	.102	-0 97
North Carolina . . . . .	39	315,483	.099	-0 99
Texas . . . . .	40	528,406	.090	-1 04
West Virginia . . . . .	41	151,570	.087	-1 06
New Mexico . . . . .	42	36,800	.086	-1 06
Louisiana . . . . .	43	163,827	.078	-1 11
Georgia . . . . .	44	220,728	.075	-1 13
Alabama . . . . .	45	177,251	.067	-1 18
South Carolina . . . . .	46	69,972	.040	-1 34
Arkansas . . . . .	47	69,332	.037	-1 35
Mississippi . . . . .	48	66,086	0 032	-1 38

\* Source U.S. Off. Educ., *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*, p. 11

Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$0 266; standard deviation, \$0 1693; U.S. total, \$39,695,093; U.S. expenditure per capita (including District of Columbia), \$0 32

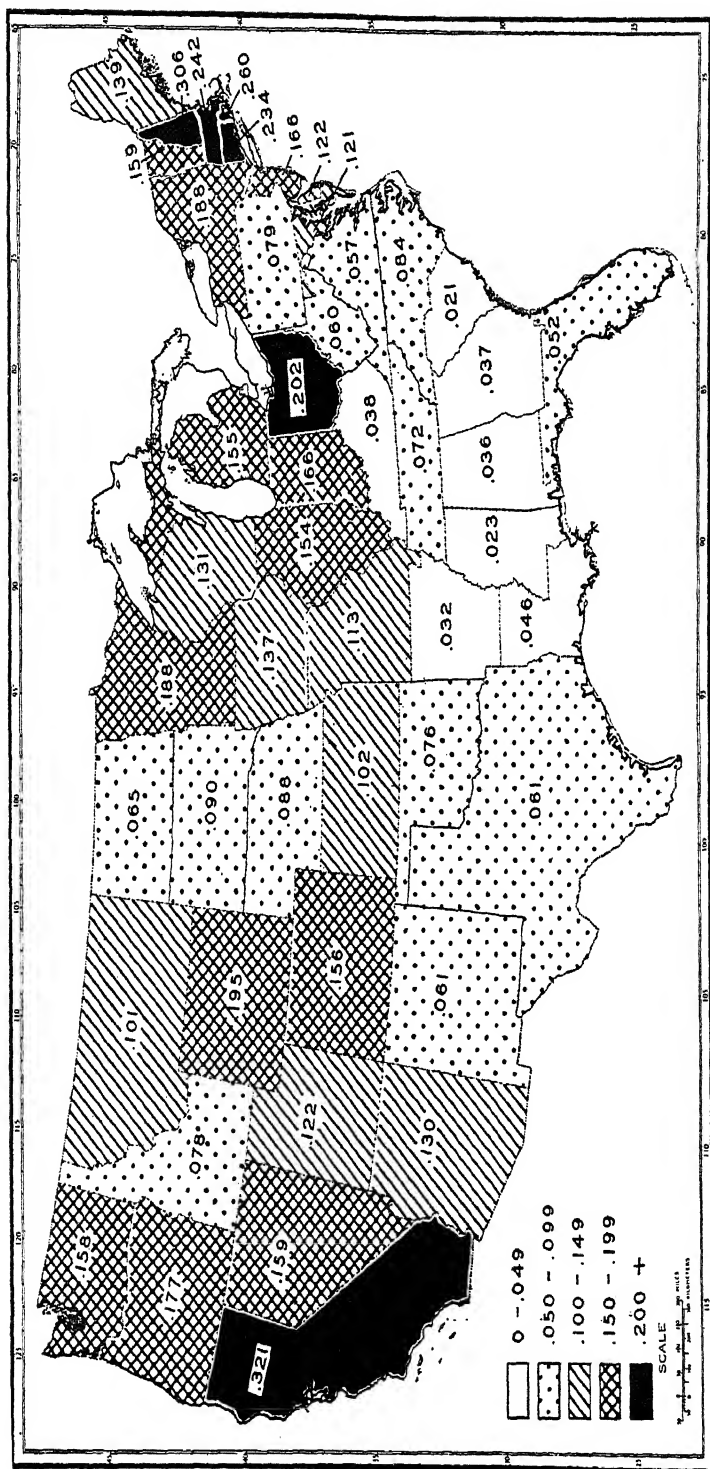


FIG. 23.—Per capita expenditure for books in libraries of 3,000 volumes, or more, reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929. Source: Same as for Table 28. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.) The figures in this map are expressed in terms of dollars.

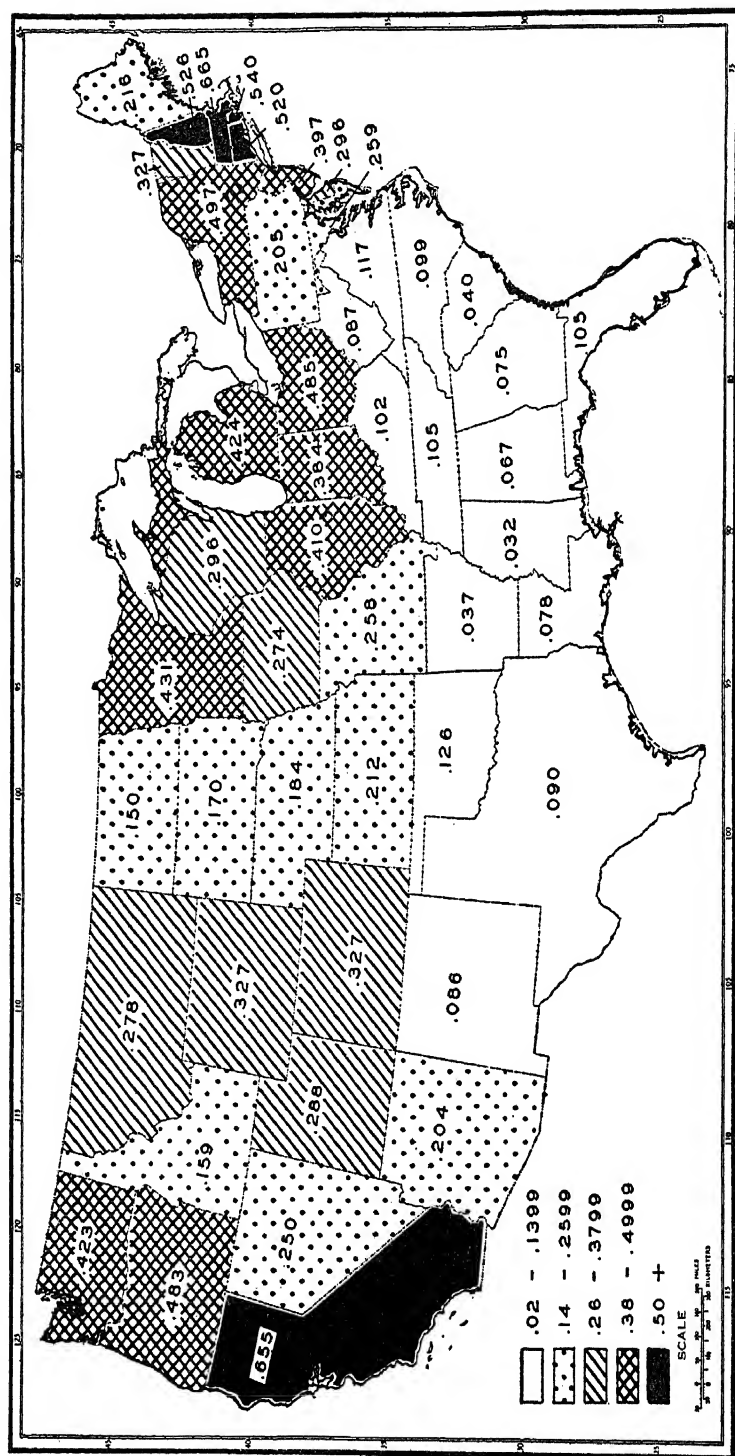


FIG. 24.—Per capita expenditure for salaries in libraries of 3,000 volumes, or more, reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929. Source: Same as for Table 29. (Goode Base Map No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.) The figures in this map are expressed in terms of dollars.

Nevada is the only state to vary more than one interval. Figure 25 summarizes the data on expenditure for books and salaries, by regions, and further emphasizes regional as well as national similarities.

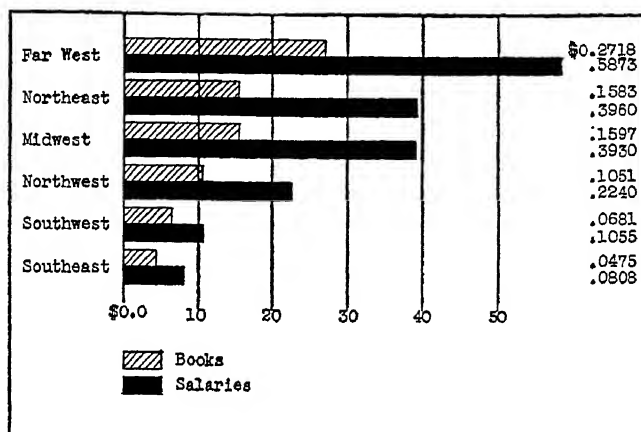


FIG. 25.—Regional summary of per capita expenditure for books and for salaries in libraries of 3,000 volumes, or more, reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929.

#### SUMMARY OF LIBRARY EXPENDITURES

The data presented in this chapter, although too incomplete to give an entirely adequate conception of the status of library expenditure in the United States, do present a fairly vivid idea of what the various states and regions of the country are paying for library service. Several facts thus revealed are inescapable. These are:

1. The average expenditure for public libraries, when total population is used as the basis of comparison, is only 37 cents. It varies from 2 cents per capita to \$1.08. When only population actually served is considered, the average is 59 cents.

2. The average per cent of the total revenues devoted to the support of public libraries in American cities of 30,000 population, or more, has been fairly steady since 1904. Its variation in cities grouped by different sizes is from 1.8 to 1.1 per cent. The average for the period is approximately 1.3 per cent. Data concerning school, college, and university library support on a com-

prehensive, national basis are not nearly so complete as desired. State and regional standardizing agencies offer convincing evidence, however, that library support, as an essential to effective school, college, and university study, is receiving increasing emphasis.

3. The income of public libraries decreased considerably from 1931 to 1934, while the demand for their services during the same period was greatly increased.

4. There has been a considerable trend in the direction of state, and possibly federal, participation in public library support in order to secure greater equalization of library opportunity throughout the nation. Participation by the federal government, however, has been almost exclusively in the form of emergency assistance.

## CHAPTER IV

### LIBRARY USE

**A**LTHOUGH the public library has existed in America for somewhat more than a century and has developed many records by which it measures the volume and character of its service, it has developed no measures by means of which its social significance can be accurately and adequately ascertained. This, as will be shown in chapter xv, is due in large measure to the fundamental difficulty of measuring the effect which reading produces upon individuals. It is also due to the high cost of studies which might effect this result.

The annual report of a library and the statistical statements which it submits to the American Library Association and to the U.S. Office of Education set forth, of course, many items of interest concerning its activities for the year. The report shows the total number of volumes owned by the library, the number of volumes added during the year, the number of volumes placed in special collections for different racial groups in the population or made available through branches and stations. The work with the foreign-born, with children, and with schools is described; the service of the staff—particularly the reference staff—to individuals, newspapers, and various organizations is noted; the expert assistance rendered by the library to scientists and to scholars is indicated; the part which the library plays in providing recreational reading is shown; and if the library maintains lecture rooms for formal or informal adult educational groups, or if, through its book lists, study outlines, or the participation of its personnel, it contributes to the adult educational activities of the community, the facts are duly recorded. The library records also contain varied information concerning the types of books circulated, the number of inter-library loans, the number of persons using the library for read-



ing and study, and many other items of which the record is valuable for administrative purposes.

The principal data upon which the library depends in measuring its social significance to its patrons are the number of volumes circulated and the number of borrowers served during the year. Unlike the high school or college, it cannot say how many students it has graduated; it has to content itself with saying that it has a body of patrons that numbers so many thousands who have borrowed during the year so many thousands or millions of books. Only in rare instances, as in the analyses made in several recent surveys, is a more minute and costly record kept, showing the specific kinds of books used by population groups which are differentiated by age, sex, education, nationality, and marital and occupational status,<sup>1</sup> or indicating to what extent, in contrast with other agencies, the library supplies materials.<sup>2</sup>

The chief points to commend number of borrowers and circulation as yardsticks are that they show the number of individuals in a given community who make more or less regular use of certain features of a public service which is educational and cultural in nature, and that the data are usually available. Both have limitations as measures, but these limitations are obviated reasonably well in comparisons in which states are used as the comparable units. The chief objection to the use of these measures is that they are deficient in the respects mentioned above, and consequently cannot be employed as satisfactorily as is desirable in evaluating the real significance of the library to the community which it serves.

#### PUBLIC LIBRARY CIRCULATION

The circulation in public libraries in the United States during 1934 was 449,998,845 volumes.<sup>3</sup> This gave an increase of

<sup>1</sup> W. C. Haygood, "Who Uses the Public Library." (MS in press.)

<sup>2</sup> R. E. Ellsworth, "The Distribution of Books and Magazines in Selected Communities" (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1937), p. 10.

<sup>3</sup> "Public Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXIX (1935), 252-53.

TABLE 30\*  
PER CAPITA CIRCULATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1934

STATE	RANK	CIRCULATION			STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Capita Total Population	Per Capita Population Served	
California.....	1	51,863,170	9 14	9 31	2 48
Massachusetts . .	2	33,037,446	7 77	7 77	1 87
New Hampshire . .	3	3,355,274	7 21	7 24	1 63
Wyoming . . . .	4	1,571,568	6 97	7 23	1 52
Washington . . .	5	9,680,084	6 83	10 42	1 46
Oregon.....	6	6,506,078	6 82	9 72	1 45
Connecticut . . .	7	10,736,668	6 68	6 74	1 39
Indiana . . . . .	8	20,834,772	6 43	8 85	1 28
Vermont . . . . .	9	2,248,792	6 25	6 74	1 20
Wisconsin . . . .	10	17,327,593	5 89	8 46	1 04
New Jersey . . . .	11	21,791,977	5 39	5 67	0 82
Ohio . . . . .	12	33,199,581	4 99	5 37	0 65
Rhode Island . . .	13	3,394,560	4 94	5.12	0 63
Maine . . . . .	14	3,796,499	4 76	6 44	0 55
Iowa . . . . .	15	11,384,612	4 60	9.66	0 48
Michigan . . . . .	16	21,177,239	4.37	5.78	0 37
New York . . . . .	17	54,666,625	4 33	4.96	0 36
Delaware . . . . .	17	1,032,027	4.33	4.33	0 36
Utah . . . . .	19	2,146,176	4.23	6.30	0 31
Illinois . . . . .	20	31,444,867	4.12	5.53	0.26
Minnesota . . . .	21	10,372,628	4.04	6.75	0 23
Colorado . . . . .	22	3,980,278	3.84	6 87	0.14
Nevada . . . . .	23	329,057	3.61	5 42	0 04
Nebraska . . . . .	24	4,570,889	3.31	6 68	-0.09
Montana . . . . .	25	1,685,216	3.13	6 15	-0.17
Missouri . . . . .	26	10,034,297	2.76	5.51	-0 33
Idaho . . . . .	27	1,214,645	2.73	8 70	-0 35
South Dakota . . .	28	1,860,412	2.68	9 78	-0.37
Kansas . . . . .	29	4,804,364	2.55	5 43	-0.43
Arizona . . . . .	30	1,048,351	2.41	3 75	-0.49
Oklahoma . . . . .	31	5,489,226	2.29	6 75	-0.54
Pennsylvania . . . .	32	21,955,411	2 27	4 16	-0.55
Maryland . . . . .	33	3,428,173	2 10	2 64	-0.63
Tennessee . . . . .	34	4,443,872	1.70	4 09	-0.80
Florida . . . . .	35	2,413,308	1 64	4 14	-0.83
North Dakota . . .	36	1,030,118	1 51	8.05	-0.89
Texas . . . . .	37	7,459,417	1 45	3 66	-0.91
Virginia . . . . .	38	2,796,971	1 15	3 46	-1.04
New Mexico . . . .	39	445,622	1 05	3.16	-1.09
Kentucky . . . . .	40	2,734,734	1 04	2 80	-1.09
North Carolina . . .	41	3,291,102	1 03	2 31	-1.10
Louisiana . . . . .	42	2,065,480	0 98	2 57	-1 12
Georgia . . . . .	43	2,732,040	0 94	3 30	-1 14
Alabama . . . . .	44	2,334,543	0 88	2 73	-1.16
West Virginia . . .	45	1,122,065	0 65	5.48	-1.26
South Carolina . . .	46	1,097,439	0 63	1.59	-1 27
Arkansas . . . . .	47	720,953	0 39	2.56	-1.38
Mississippi . . . . .	48	719,615	0 36	1.14	-1 39

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 252-53.  
Mean per capita total population (based on means of the 48 states), 3.52; mean per capita population served (based on means of the 48 states), 5.80; standard deviation, 2.26; U.S. total, 449,998,845. U.S. circulation per capita (including District of Columbia), 3.67.  
Rank and standard scores are based on total population rather than on population served.

223,855,919 over the 226,142,926 volumes circulated in 1926<sup>4</sup>—a remarkable doubling in the decade, and that, too, in spite of greatly reduced budgets in 1934. Unfortunately, no nationwide record has been kept of the number of borrowers to whom these volumes were loaned. They were unofficially estimated, however, by the American Library Association to be 26,000,000 in 1936.

Table 30 and Figures 26 and 27 present information concerning the variations in per capita circulations by states and regions. From these data it is seen that library use, as measured by circulation, corresponds closely to library accessibility, resources, and support. The nature of the political unit (town system in New England and county systems in California, New Jersey, *et al.*) also plays an important role here. California leads all the states with a per capita circulation of 9.14 volumes. The Far West leads the regions with 8.3. Massachusetts and New Hampshire stand second and third in the rank order of states, but the Northeast is slightly outranked by the Midwest as a region. The Far West outranks the Southeast approximately eight times. No state reaches the American Library Association standard of 10 per capita for all of its population. A number of states, however, exceed this standard in their loans of books to the population served.

If Figure 26 (Per capita circulation of public libraries, 1934) is compared with Figure 1 (Per cent of population of each state residing in local public library districts, 1934), it will be found that twenty-three states are in the same interval on both maps, twenty-one vary one interval, and four vary two. Washington and Iowa stand two intervals higher with respect to circulation than with respect to population served, while the reverse is true of Maryland and Delaware. If Figure 26 is compared with Figure 11 (Volumes per capita in public libraries, 1934), it will be found that thirty-three states are in the same interval, while the two states, Washington and Nevada,

<sup>4</sup> American Library Association, Committee on Library Extension, *Library Extension* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1926), p. 123.

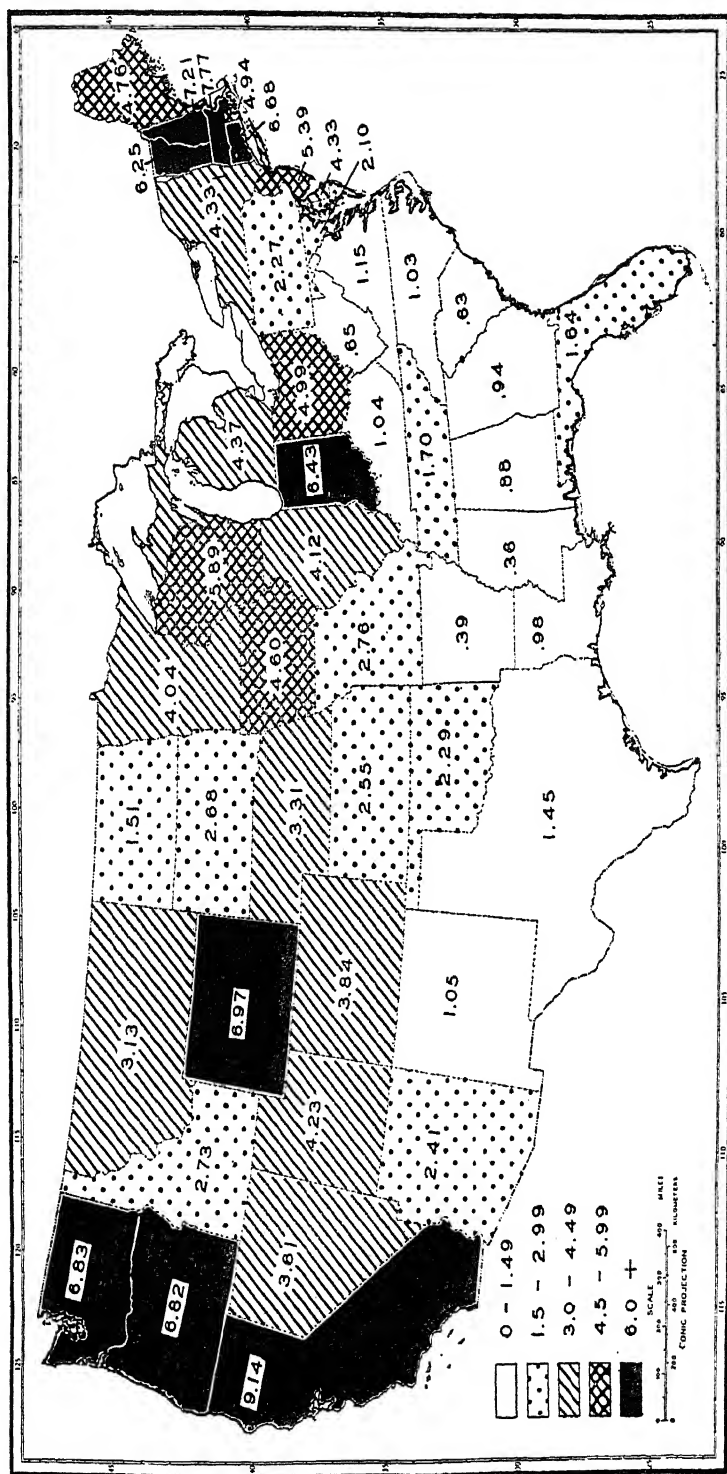


FIG. 26.—Per capita circulation of public libraries, 1934. Source: Same as for Table 30. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

vary two intervals with Washington rating higher in circulation, and Nevada in holdings.

If the data of Figure 18 (Per capita expenditure for public libraries, 1934) are used as an index of support, it will be seen that thirty states are in the same interval as in Figure 26, but

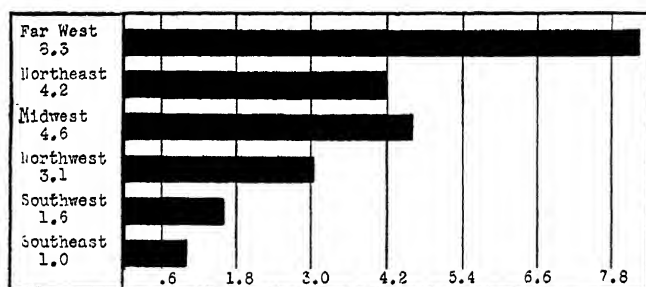


FIG. 27.—Regional summary of per capita circulation of public libraries, 1934

TABLE 31\*

PER CAPITA PUBLIC LIBRARY CIRCULATION BY REGIONS  
1926 AND 1935

Region	1926	1935	Increase
Northeast .. .	2 5	4.2	1.7
Midwest .. .	2 8	4.6	1 8
Southeast.....	0 4	1 0	0 6
Southwest ....	0 6	1.6	1 0
Northwest . . .	1 8	3.1	1.3
Far West. ....	5 9	8 3	2 4

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXIX (1935), 252-53, A. L. A., Com. on Lib. Ext., *Library Extension* (Chic. A. L. A., 1926), p. 123. Population figures are from the federal census of 1920 and of 1930.

that Washington, Wyoming, Iowa, Indiana, Maine, Vermont, and New York vary two intervals between the two maps. If these seven states are compared more carefully, it will be noticed that all of them except New York rank two intervals higher in circulation than in expenditure. It would appear that their residents receive more for their money, in so far as books borrowed is an index of what they are getting, than do the citizens of the other states. In New York, on the contrary, the expendi-

tures rank two intervals higher than the circulation. This disparity in the case of New York, however, may well be attributed to the noncirculation of the major part of the New York Public Library at Forty-second Street, and to the high cost of living index for the city (1.29), cited in chapter iii. It seems rather significant that the states which have the highest per capita circulation in their respective regions are those which have effective types of book distribution to the entire population. Town and city libraries in New England, county libraries in California, New Jersey, and Wyoming, and county and township libraries in Indiana, most of which serve total populations, seem largely responsible for this excellent showing.

#### CIRCULATION WITHIN ILLINOIS

Table 32 shows the variations in circulation within the state of Illinois for the five years 1929-33. Except for Warren County, which has county-wide service, the circulation is based upon the entire population of each county, instead of upon the population served. Nine counties contained no libraries, and data concerning four were not available for the period.

#### CIRCULATION IN COUNTIES HAVING COUNTY SERVICE

Table 33 presents data concerning per capita circulation in counties which provided at least \$4,500 for county service in 1935. The counties ranking highest in the four groups were: Sutter County, California, 13.72; San Diego, California, 13.58; Cass County, Indiana, 11.08; and Koochiching, Minnesota, 14.46. The populations, which are not given in the table, range from 589,356 down to 6,763.<sup>5</sup> The American Library Association standards for per capita circulation in cities of various sizes may be contrasted with these: cities over 1,000,000, 5; between 200,000 and 1,000,000, 7; between 100,000 and 200,000, 8; between 10,000 and 100,000, 9; below 10,000, 10.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> "County Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXX (1936), 115-21.

<sup>6</sup> "Standards for Public Libraries," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXVII (1933), 513-14.

TABLE 32\*  
AVERAGE PER CAPITA CIRCULATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES  
IN ILLINOIS, 1929-33

County	Rank	Circulation	Standard Score	County	Rank	Circulation	Standard Score
Warren . . .	1	8 63	3 64	Mason	46	2 68	-0.17
Kane . . .	2	8 41	2 22	Edgar	47	2 67	-0 18
Alexander	3	6 37	2 19	Brown . . .	48	2 66	-0 19
Knox . . .	4	5 81	1 83	Menard	49	2 65	-0 19
Rock Island . . .	5	5 78	1 81	Marshall . . .	50	2 58	-0 24
Stephenson . . .	6	5 77	1 81	Christian . . .	50	2 58	-0 24
Peoria . . . .	7	5 70	1 76	Livingston	52	2 44	-0 33
Henry . . . .	8	5 61	1 71	Grundy . . .	53	2 39	-0 36
Piatt . . . .	9	5 24	1 47	Williamson . .	54	2 32	-0 40
Sangamon . . .	10	5.03	1 33	Boone . . . .	55	2 29	-0 42
Winnebago . . .	11	4 96	1 29	Madison . . .	56	2 27	-0.44
Champaign . . .	12	4 89	1 24	Ogle . . . .	57	2 21	-0 47
Macon . . . .	13	4 43	0 95	Lee . . . .	58	2 20	-0 48
Wabash . . . .	14	4 39	0 92	Fulton . . . .	59	2 16	-0 51
Cook . . . .	15	4 35	0 90	Scott . . . .	60	2 00	-0 61
Lake . . . . .	16	4 32	0 88	Pike . . . .	61	1 98	-0 62
McLean . . . .	17	4 26	0 84	Woodford . . .	62	1 95	-0 64
De Kalb . . . .	18	4 15	0 77	Union . . . .	63	1.93	-0 65
La Salle . . . .	19	4 12	0 75	Cass . . . .	64	1 90	-0 67
Vermilion . . .	20	4 09	0 73	Mercer . . . .	65	1 87	-0 69
Morgan . . . .	21	3 97	0 65	Massac . . . .	65	1 87	-0 69
Ford . . . . .	22	3 96	0 65	Crawford . . .	67	1 86	-0 70
De Witt . . . .	22	3 96	0 65	Montgomery	68	1 85	-0 71
Du Page . . . .	24	3 83	0 56	Marion . . . .	69	1 81	-0 73
Will . . . . .	25	3.76	0 52	Jersey . . . .	70	1 80	-0 74
Cumberland . . .	26	3 54	0 38	Saline . . . .	71	1 69	-0 81
Coles . . . . .	27	3 52	0 37	Shelby . . . .	72	1 64	-0 84
Stark . . . . .	28	3.41	0 30	Bond . . . .	73	1 53	-0 91
Adams . . . . .	28	3 41	0 30	Franklin . . .	74	1 48	-0 94
Jo Daviess . . .	30	3 33	0 24	Moultrie . . .	75	1 44	-0 97
Greene . . . .	31	3 32	0 24	Schuyler . . .	76	1 36	-1 02
Hancock . . . .	32	3 31	0 23	Edwards . . .	77	1 33	-1 04
Whiteside . . .	33	3 30	0.22	Fayette . . . .	78	1 32	-1 05
Lawrence . . .	34	3 21	0 17	Richland . . .	79	1 31	-1 05
Carroll . . . .	34	3 21	0.17	Jackson . . . .	80	1 16	-1.15
Kankakee . . .	36	3 07	0 08	Jefferson . . .	81	1 15	-1 15
Kendall . . . .	37	3 04	0 06	Macoupin . . .	82	1 03	-1 23
McDonough . . .	38	3 00	0 03	Clark . . . .	83	0 97	-1 27
Douglas . . . .	39	2.93	-0 01	White . . . .	84	0 96	-1 28
St. Clair . . . .	40	2 92	-0 02	Wayne . . . .	85	0 92	-1 30
Logan . . . . .	41	2.79	-0 10	Hamilton . . .	86	0 61	-1 50
Iroquois . . . .	42	2 78	-0 11	Randolph . . .	87	0 59	-1 51
McHenry . . . .	43	2 77	-0 12	Clay . . . .	88	0 33	-1 68
Bureau . . . .	43	2 77	-0 12	Johnson	89	0 31	-1 69
Tazewell . . .	45	2 70	-0 16				

\* Source Computed from Ill. State Lib., Lib. Ext. Div., *Report for January 1, 1928 to December 31, 1929, 1930-31, 1932-33* (Springfield: State of Ill., 1930, 1932, 1931), pp. 46-53, 32-91; 27-51, Ill. State Lib., Lib. Ext. Div., *Statistics of the Libraries of Illinois, 1930, 1932* (Springfield: State of Ill., 1931, 1933), pp. 13-56, 11-57.

There are no data for the following counties. Calhoun, Clinton, Effingham, Gallatin, Hardin, Henderson, Jasper, Monroe, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Putnam, Washington.  
Illinois mean (based on means of 89 counties), 2.97, Illinois median, 2.70, Illinois standard deviation, 1.56.

## CIRCULATION IN CITIES

Table 34 carries the analysis farther in cities<sup>7</sup> in four groups. Cleveland, Ohio, leads the group of large cities with a per capita circulation of 10.95; Bridgeport, Connecticut, the second group with 9.96; Pasadena, California, the third group with

TABLE 33\*  
PER CAPITA CIRCULATION OF COUNTY LIBRARIES, 1935

County Libraries	Number of Counties	High	Median	Low
<i>Group I:</i> Serving all, or most, of county . . . .	27	13 72	7 56	2 83
<i>Group II:</i> Omitting service to county seat, and possibly other sections . . . . .	25	13.58	4 75	0.12
<i>Group III:</i> Serving headquarters, city, and county..	7	11 08	5.16	2 40
<i>Group IV:</i> County served through contract.. . . .	23	14 46	3 90	0 98

\* Source "County Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXX (1936), 115-21.

TABLE 34\*  
PER CAPITA CIRCULATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES SERVING CITY  
POPULATIONS FROM 200,000, OR MORE,  
TO 10,000, 1935

Population	Number of Cities	High	Median	Low
200,000 and over. . . . .	43	10 95	5 47	2.01
100,000-199,999 . . . . .	41	9 96	5.51	1.67
35,000- 99,999 . . . . .	43	17.93	7 93	2 63
10,000- 34,999 . . . . .	38	16 06	9 02	4.86

\* Source: "County Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXX (1936), 115-21.

17.93; and Hibbing, Minnesota, the fourth group with 16.06. Those ranking lowest for the corresponding groups are Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2.01; Nashville, Tennessee, 1.67; Orange, New Jersey, 2.63; and Alliance, Ohio, 4.86.

<sup>7</sup> "Public Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXX (1936), pp. 258-59, 263, 268, 273.



## PER CAPITA CIRCULATION OF ALL LIBRARIES

The data discussed thus far in this chapter relate to the per capita circulation of public and county libraries. The circulation of public libraries constitutes the greatest element of all circulation reported to the U.S. Office of Education. In 1929, the total number of volumes reported as loaned for home use by all libraries, including school, college, university, public, and others, of 3,000 volumes, or more, was 336,758,203.<sup>8</sup> Figure 28 gives data concerning the per capita circulation of all libraries of 1,000 volumes, or more, reporting in 1929 to the Office of Education. It adds little to the information presented in regard to the per capita circulation in public libraries, except to confirm the distribution which the latter portrayed. Thirty-two states maintain the same relative status on both maps, and none of those remaining varies more than one interval.

Somewhat surprising, at first glance, is the fact that in nearly every state the combined circulation from all libraries having 1,000 or more volumes, which reported to the Office of Education in 1929, was considerably exceeded, in 1935, by the circulation of public libraries, alone, reported to the American Library Association.<sup>9</sup> This may be explained by the failure of a large number of libraries to report in 1929, and by the great increase in circulation in public libraries all over the country from 1929 to 1935. From 1926 to 1935 the circulation figures for public libraries were almost doubled, the increase in volumes being 223,855,919.<sup>10</sup>

## LIBRARY REGISTRANTS

Although the number of registered borrowers is one of the two measures by which library use is generally evaluated, the

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Office of Education, *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*, Bulletin 1930, No. 37 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1931), p. 7.

<sup>9</sup> If the American Library Association had procured data for 1933 circulation instead of that for 1934, the total would have been even greater, as circulation began to drop in 1933-34.

<sup>10</sup> "Public Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXIX (1935), 253; American Library Association, Committee on Library Extension, *op. cit.*, pp. 122-23.

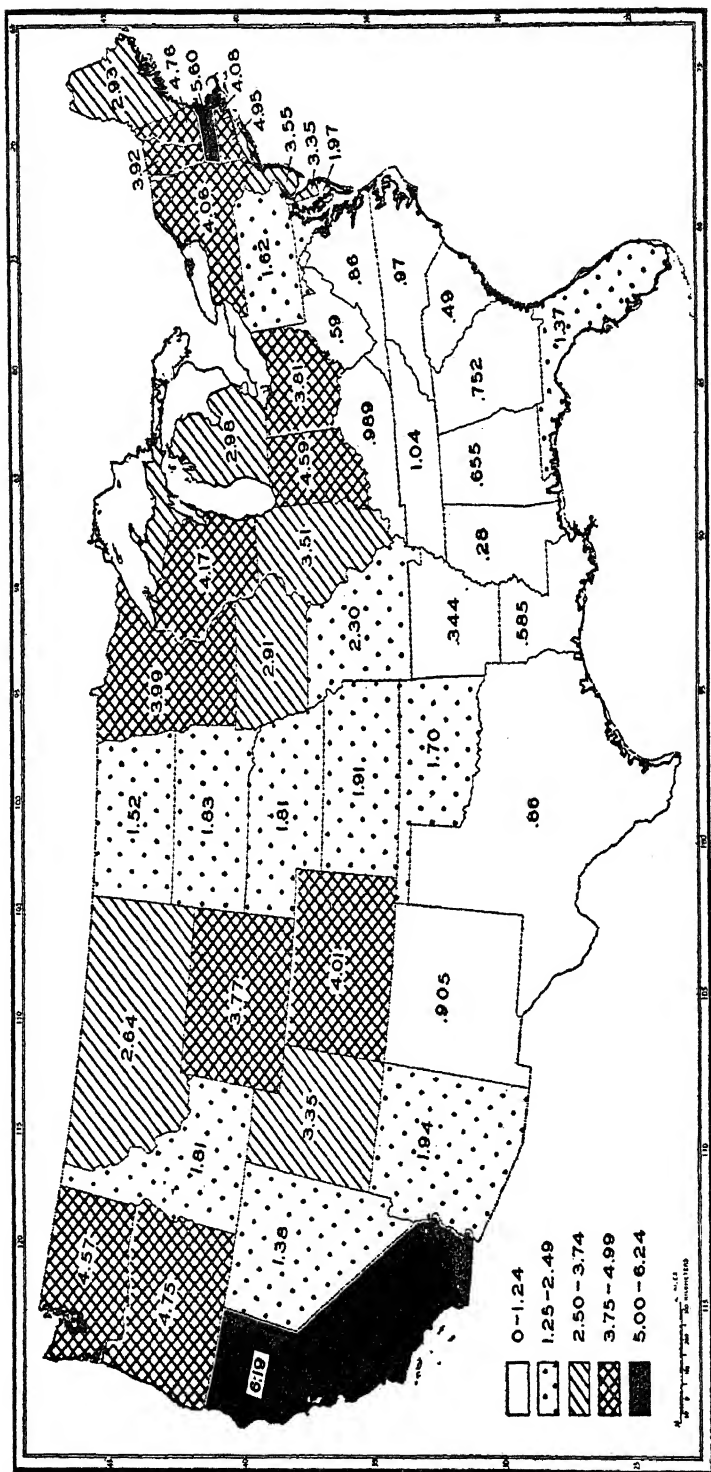


FIG. 28.—Per capita circulation of books in libraries reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929. Source: U.S. Office of Education, *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*, Bulletin 1930, No. 37 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1931), p. 7. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

record concerning it is not nearly so accurately kept as that of circulation. Individual libraries keep records, the American Library Association has established what per cent of residents should be registrants of public libraries in cities of varying populations, and accrediting agencies of schools, colleges, and universities require the maintenance of records of library use, including borrowers; but yet no complete record on a national and state basis is available. The nearest and latest approximation to such a record is that compiled by the U.S. Office of Education in 1929.

Unfortunately, the statistics which it gives present no distinction between public and other libraries, and as a result no comparisons between circulation and registration can be made for the public libraries. The major fact, however, which this record reveals is that 19,635,906 borrowers' cards were in force in 4,134 libraries of 3,000 volumes, or more, which reported in 1929. This number was obviously considerably under the real total, as libraries of less than 3,000 volumes were excluded, and only 4,134 libraries of the 6,429 which reported on other matters reported on the number of registrants. The American Library Association estimated, in 1936, that there were 26,000,000 public library registrants, but this was only an estimate. In spite of incompleteness of data, therefore, it is apparent that approximately one out of every five persons in the United States is a holder of a library card—an impressive total when compared with the enrolment of 6,096,488 students in public and private high schools in 1933-34,<sup>11</sup> or 1,054,360 students enrolled in public and private American colleges, universities, and professional schools the same year.

Table 35 and Figures 29 and 30 present the data concerning the distribution of library card-holders on a nation-wide basis, as reported in 1929. When they are reduced to graphic expression, as in the regional summary (Fig. 30), the inequality of opportunity to draw upon the resources of well-stocked, competently staffed libraries is tragically apparent.

<sup>11</sup> Correspondence with U.S. Office of Education, 1936.

TABLE 35\*

PER CENT OF POPULATION REGISTERED AS BORROWERS IN LIBRARIES OF  
1,000 VOLUMES, OR MORE, REPORTING TO THE U.S.

OFFICE OF EDUCATION IN 1929

STATE	RANK	REGISTERED BORROWERS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Cent	
California . . . . .	1	1,792,267	31 57	1 95
Oregon . . . . .	2	292,644	30 68	1 85
New Hampshire. . . . .	3	138,275	29 72	1 73
New York. . . . .	4	3,571,643	28 37	1 56
Rhode Island . . . . .	5	191,762	27 89	1 51
Indiana . . . . .	6	893,910	27 60	1 48
Utah . . . . .	7	130,577	25 71	1 25
Vermont . . . . .	8	88,125	24 51	1.10
Washington . . . . .	9	382,201	24 45	1 09
Massachusetts . . . . .	10	1,029,848	24 23	1 06
Connecticut. . . . .	11	373,393	23 24	0 94
New Jersey. . . . .	12	862,700	21 35	0 71
Montana. . . . .	13	112,859	20 99	0 68
Minnesota. . . . .	14	530,120	20 68	0 64
Wyoming. . . . .	15	46,093	20 43	0 60
Wisconsin. . . . .	16	590,343	20 09	0 57
Colorado. . . . .	17	206,721	19 96	0 54
Illinois . . . . .	18	1,503,847	19 71	0 52
Ohio . . . . .	19	1,245,238	18 73	0 40
Michigan . . . . .	20	879,005	18 15	0 33
Maine. . . . .	21	141,167	17 70	0 28
Iowa. . . . .	22	394,814	15 98	0 07
Kansas . . . . .	23	286,453	15 23	-0.02
Idaho . . . . .	24	63,895	14 36	-0.13
Nevada. . . . .	25	12,947	14 22	-0.15
Missouri . . . . .	26	503,466	13 87	-0 19
Delaware . . . . .	27	30,014	12.59	-0 34
Nebraska . . . . .	28	169,631	12.31	-0 38
Oklahoma . . . . .	29	283,170	11.82	-0.44
Pennsylvania . . . . .	30	1,120,887	11 64	-0 46
South Dakota. . . . .	31	71,858	10.37	-0.62
Arizona . . . . .	32	44,776	10 28	-0 63
North Dakota . . . . .	33	65,285	9.59	-0.70
Texas. . . . .	34	547,758	9 40	-0 73
Maryland . . . . .	35	151,871	9 31	-0 74
Florida. . . . .	36	129,675	8.83	-0 80
West Virginia. . . . .	37	134,572	7 78	-0 93
New Mexico. . . . .	38	30,939	7 31	-0 98
Virginia. . . . .	39	166,848	6.89	-1 03
Tennessee . . . . .	40	173,643	6.64	-1 06
North Carolina. . . . .	41	198,776	6 27	-1.11
Georgia . . . . .	42	173,467	5.96	-1 15
Alabama . . . . .	43	149,983	5 67	-1 19
Louisiana . . . . .	44	105,380	5 01	-1 26
Kentucky . . . . .	45	130,003	4 97	-1 27
South Carolina. . . . .	46	66,811	3 84	-1 40
Arkansas. . . . .	47	47,064	2.54	-1.56
Mississippi. . . . .	48	41,654	2 07	-1.62

\* Source. U.S. Off. Educ., *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1920*, Bull. 1930, No. 37 (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1931), pp. 7, 12-13.

Mean per cent (based on means of the 48 states), 15.42; standard deviation, 8.27; U.S. total, 20,307,766; U.S. per cent (including District of Columbia), 16.54.

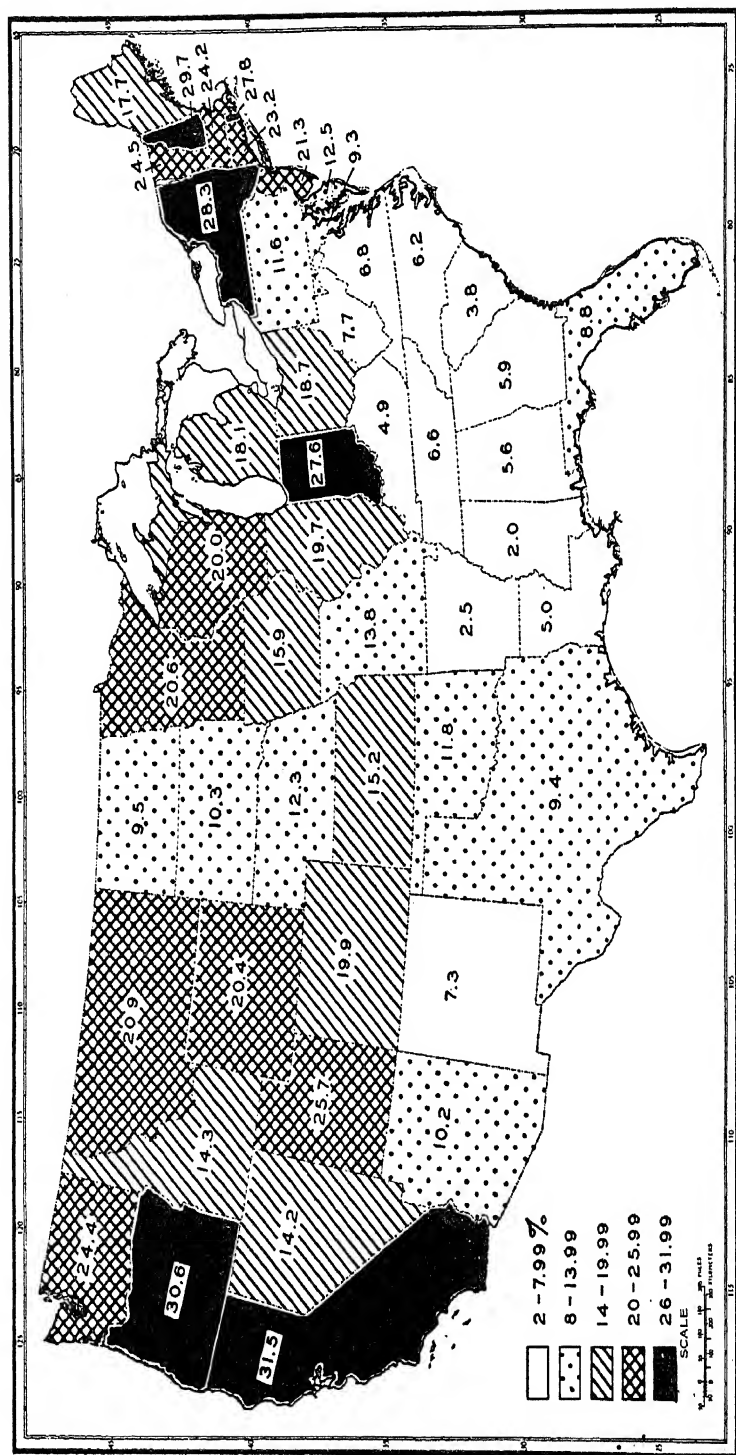


FIG. 29.—Per cent of population registered as borrowers in libraries of 1,000 volumes, or more, reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929. Source: Same as for Table 35. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

REGISTRATION AND CIRCULATION BY COUNTIES  
WITHIN A STATE

The library map of the nation has by this time assumed fairly definite form. The Far West and the Northeast are for the most part represented on the maps as black or heavily shaded, the Southeast and Southwest, as white or dotted, with the Midwest and Northwest shaded between. A careful mapping of library accessibility, holdings, support, etc., by counties within states, wherever data are available, frequently shows even more decided patterns. Such a study of Tennessee, for example, will

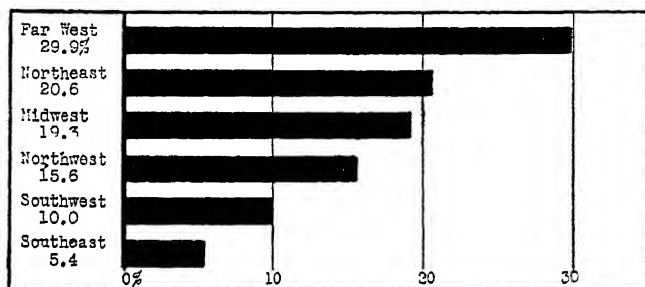


FIG. 30.—Regional summary of per cent of population registered as borrowers in libraries of 1,000 volumes, or more, reporting to the U.S. Office of Education in 1929.

usually show Knox, Davidson, Jefferson, and Shelby counties in the black. Library development within them is high, whereas a number of other counties wholly lacking public libraries will be shown in the white, with other counties falling consistently between. In North Carolina, the counties in the mountain highlands, the Piedmont region, the eastern cotton belt, and the tidewater region, all tend to differentiate themselves, as far as libraries are concerned, according to a fairly discernible pattern.

Figures 31 and 32, which represent the status of Illinois counties as to registered borrowers and per capita circulation, do not present striking illustrations of this tendency, since the geographical features of Illinois are not so varied as those of Tennessee or North Carolina. But the sequence of Illinois maps, thus far, has at least given some indication of such a pattern, particularly in the lower half of the state, where, in the case of

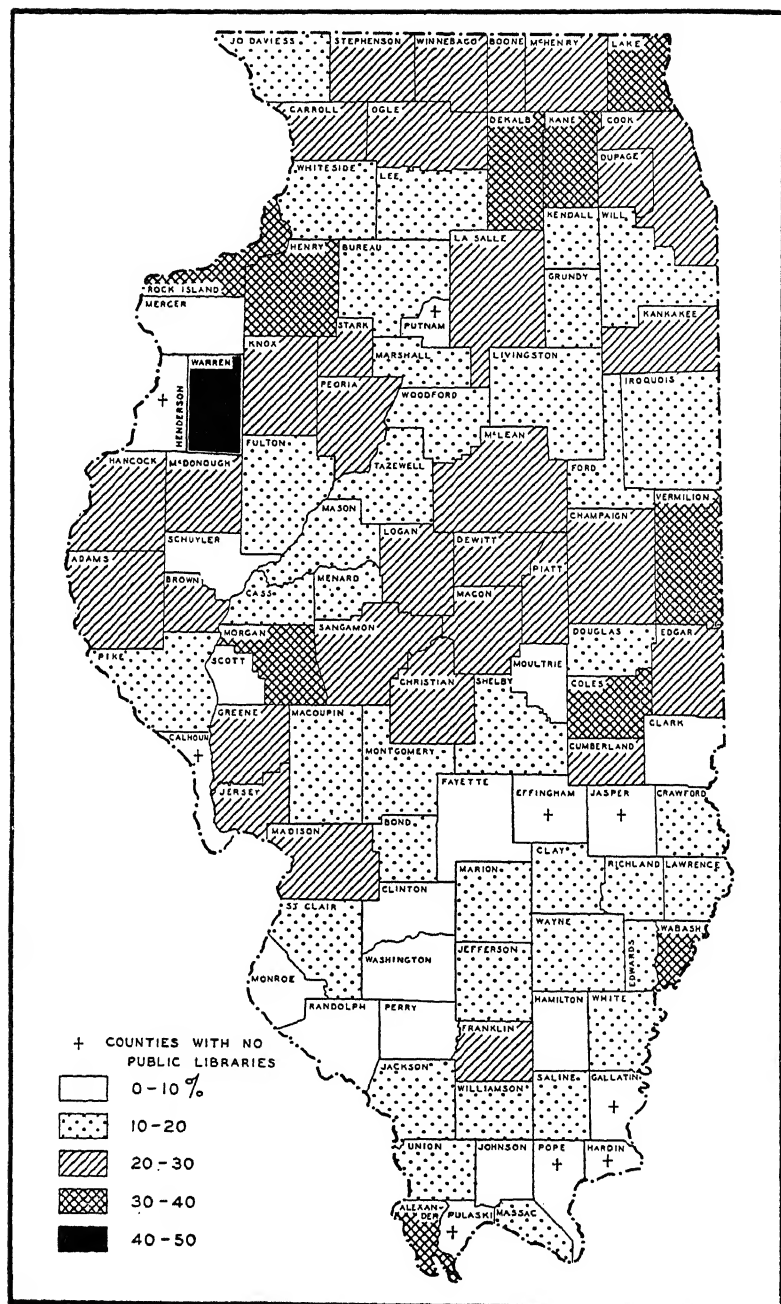


FIG. 31.—Per cent of population registered as borrowers, by county, in Illinois (five-year average), 1929-33. Source: Computed from Illinois State Library, Library Extension Division, *Report for January 1, 1928 to December 31, 1929; 1930-31; 1932-33* (Springfield: State of Illinois, 1930; 1932; 1934), pp. 46-57; 32-90; 27-51; Illinois State Library, Library Extension Division, *Statistics of the Libraries of Illinois, 1930; 1932* (Springfield: State of Illinois, 1931; 1933), pp. 13-56; 11-56.

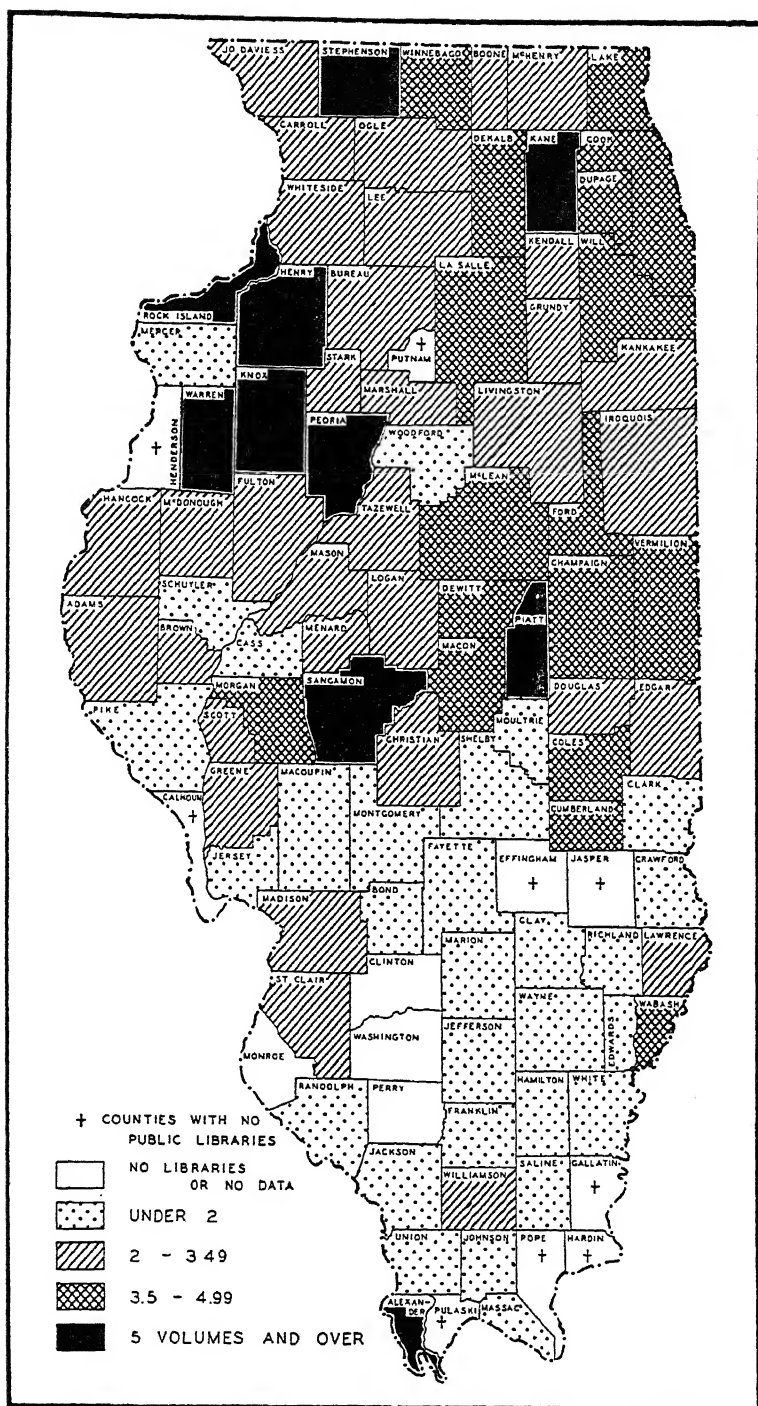


FIG. 32.—Per capita annual circulation, Illinois (five-year average), 1929-33. Source: Same as for Fig. 31.



registration, the inequality is found to be even greater than that throughout the nation. For the range in counties is from no registrants whatever in nine, to over 40 per cent in one, whereas no state is shown without some library registrants.

#### REGISTRATION WITHIN CITIES

Statistics of registration within cities have been compiled for a number of years by the American Library Association. Table 36 summarizes the findings for 165 cities in four groups for 1935. The cities ranking high in the four groups are Cleve-

TABLE 36\*

PER CENT OF POPULATION REGISTERED IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES SERVING  
CITY POPULATIONS FROM 200,000, OR MORE, TO 10,000, 1935

Population	Number of Cities	High	Median	Low
200,000 and over. . . . .	43	35.78	23.02	11 96
100,000-199,999 . . . . .	41	50 41	28.28	13 55
35,000- 99,999. . . . .	43	68.36	36.35	18 88
10,000- 34,999. . . . .	38	74.20	40 65	25.80

\* Source: "Public Library Statistics," A. L. A., *Bull.*, XXX (1936), 255-78.

land, Ohio, 35.78; San Diego, California, 50.41; Pasadena, California, 68.36; and Hempstead, New York, 74.20.<sup>12</sup> Those ranking correspondingly low are Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 11.96; El Paso, Texas, 13.55; St. John, New Brunswick, 18.88; and Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, 25.80. The American Library Association standards for different-sized cities are: in cities over 1,000,000, 25 per cent; 200,000 to 1,000,000, 30 per cent; 100,000 to 200,000, 35 per cent; 10,000 to 100,000, 40 per cent; and less than 10,000, 50 per cent. As seen from the data, circulation and registration tend to increase on a per capita or percentage basis as population decreases within city groups. In the

<sup>12</sup> "Public Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXX (1936), 255-78. The citation of data of this character for one year, only, is not altogether satisfactory, as it may not reveal usual or constant conditions.

case of county registration, groups are not based on population but upon areas served, and no general information has been collected as to registrants for the year under consideration.

#### CIRCULATION THROUGH LIBRARY EXTENSION AGENCIES

To offset the lack of library service within states, state library agencies generally maintain general collections and package and traveling libraries. In New York, California, New Jersey, Oregon, and other states, the general collections are extensive, and their state agencies maintain extensive loan services to local libraries by means of which the latter are able to supply books that would not otherwise be available to their registrants.

Another function of the state agency is to supply library materials to residents of areas not served by libraries. It was seen earlier that in Delaware the state library agency serves such residents somewhat in the capacity of a county library. It maintains branch and deposit libraries and operates a bookmobile. In a number of states, package and traveling libraries are also loaned to individuals and villages. But the total of this type of service, while seemingly of considerable extent, is not sufficient to wipe out the inequalities shown above. In 1926, 1,746,483 volumes were loaned in this way in the United States and Canada,<sup>13</sup> but it was pointed out by the American Library Association that this total was normally exceeded by the circulation of a single city of 300,000 inhabitants.

Figure 33 indicates the extent to which traveling libraries sent out by the state extension agency succeeded in equalizing library opportunity in Illinois prior to the organization of service through federal agencies under the Library Extension Division of the Illinois State Library. The most important fact to notice is that in only one county did the circulation of books from the extension division amount in fifteen months to as much as one book for every three inhabitants. In only nine counties were books borrowed to the extent of one book for every ten

<sup>13</sup> American Library Association, Committee on Library Extension, *op. cit.*, p. 123.



residents. However, it is interesting, and perhaps significant, to notice that six of the nine counties without a single public library rank among the eleven counties making the greatest per capita use of the extension division books.

#### LIBRARY EXTENSION THROUGH FEDERAL AGENCIES

The situation described in the preceding pages, it should be stated, is that which generally prevailed before the federal government began in 1933 and 1934 to participate in developing library service as an emergency relief measure. In Illinois, for example, an extensive service including many registrants was organized in 1936 for many communities which previously were without library service. Service organized under such auspices in Mississippi and other states has already been mentioned in chapter i. The record of such service, however, is so imperfect as to make an exact statement concerning it impossible, other than to say that 2,115,984 persons had been brought within it prior to March 1, 1937. Even though additional areas have been served through state and federal agencies in the manner indicated, the fact remains that approximately 43,000,000 people are still without both local public library service and service from federal agencies, and that the effort to serve them through state and federal agencies has so far altered the situation but slightly.

#### SUMMARY

The problem of measuring the social significance of the public library is far from solution. This is true because of the difficulties and expense involved in carrying out studies which would reveal, with a fair degree of accuracy, the effects of reading upon different library patrons. Possibly the solution of the problem cannot be satisfactorily achieved because the effect which the reading of a given book may produce upon one individual may be quite different from that produced upon another.

Two measures of library use, however, have been devised and are generally employed even in the smallest libraries. These are

the number of volumes per capita circulated annually among its patrons and the per cent of the population making more or less regular use of its various services. These measures do not include a record of questions answered through reference service; of aid given to readers, study groups, and clubs; of the lectures held, broadcasts participated in, films shown, etc.—all of which are normal activities of many libraries and should be taken into consideration in any effort to evaluate the full significance of library service to a community.

The data presented in this chapter reveal wide variation in per capita circulation and per cent of registered borrowers. Among the states, loans varied from one-third of a volume to more than 9 volumes per capita and among the counties of Illinois (excluding the counties without any public library service), from one-third of a volume to 8.6 volumes per capita. The average for the nation was 3.67, and the total circulation was a little under one-half billion volumes.

Statistics concerning the per cent of registered borrowers are less satisfactory as a measure of use than those concerning per capita circulation because they are not as carefully recorded. They show a variation of from 2 per cent of the population of Mississippi to nearly a third of the inhabitants of California. A total of 26,000,000 individuals were registered as patrons of public libraries, not including the two or three million served by state and federal library agencies. In spite of the impressive numbers of total volumes circulated and the large per cent of population registered as patrons, this chapter adds to the evidence that thousands of communities throughout the nation are deprived of the benefits which are supposed to flow from the public library because no library is to be found within them.

## CHAPTER V

### LIBRARIES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION REFERENCE, AND RESEARCH

IN EUROPE, libraries are usually grouped in four major classes: (1) general (including national), university, and large scholarly libraries; (2) special libraries of institutes, learned societies, and governmental administrative bodies; (3) great municipal libraries; and (4) popular libraries.<sup>1</sup> The first three are thought of as scholarly, or administrative, and are organized and administered almost exclusively for the scholar or governmental administrator for purposes of reference and research. The popular library, on the other hand, is intended for the general public, and its organization and administration are directed in such a way as to serve general, rather than scholarly, purposes.

An equally clear-cut distinction between the public library in the United States and other libraries cannot be made, as the public library, especially in case of the larger public library, serves the scholar as well as the general public, and in many instances college, university, state, and governmental libraries serve the general public as well as their special clienteles. In this chapter, therefore, consideration will be given to the distribution of all libraries, including public libraries, whose primary functions are to serve the student, scholar, investigator, public administrator, industrialist, or others who require extensive and highly specialized materials. Attention is also given to the concentration of materials and bibliographical resources in centers where geographical location adds to the significance of the materials themselves. Specifically, consideration will be given in sequence to: (1) major concentrations of library materials;

<sup>1</sup> Institut International de Coopération Intellectuelle, *Rôle et formation du bibliothécaire* (Paris: Institut International de Coopération Intellectuelle, 1935), p. 57.

(2) special bibliographical apparatus; (3) depositories for federal documents; (4) college and university libraries; and (5) special libraries which serve industry or other special purposes.

#### LIBRARY CENTERS

In 1900, the United States possessed no library of 1,000,000 volumes.<sup>2</sup> The Library of Congress collection numbered 995,166 books and pamphlets, and that of Harvard University, 576,950 volumes and 458,361 pamphlets. The Library of Congress and the major university libraries, as contrasted with the national and major university libraries of Europe were notably lacking in manuscripts, incunabula, and other early printed books and materials which related to the ancient and medieval civilizations. Thousands of books and journals fundamental to scholarship and scientific investigation had to be consulted abroad because copies of them were not to be found in the libraries of the country.

In 1934-35, thirteen libraries in the United States contained 1,000,000, or more, volumes.<sup>3</sup> The Library of Congress numbered 4,992,510 printed volumes and pamphlets, 1,131,747 volumes and pieces of music, 534,642 prints, 1,319,697 maps and views, and 540,000 volumes deposited in it by the Smithsonian Institution.<sup>4</sup> The New York Public Library, with its great resources of the original Public Library and the Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations combined, stood second in the list with 3,730,337. Harvard was third with 3,696,620, Yale was fourth with 2,445,682 volumes, and the Cleveland Public Library was fifth with 1,919,343 volumes.

In addition to these great collections, the public libraries of Boston, Brooklyn, Cincinnati, Chicago, and Los Angeles, and the university libraries of Columbia, Chicago, and Illinois had passed considerably beyond the million mark, and large spe-

<sup>2</sup> *The International Yearbook*, 1900 (New York: Dodd, Mead and Company, 1901).

<sup>3</sup> *The American Library Directory*, 1935 (New York: R. R. Bowker Company, 1935).

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Library of Congress, *Report of the Librarian of Congress for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30th, 1935* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1935), pp. 13, 264.

TABLE 37\*

SEVENTY-SEVEN LIBRARY CENTERS, OF NOT OVER 50 MILES RADIUS (AIRLINE)  
CONTAINING 500,000 VOLUMES, OR MORE

City	Rank	Volumes in Area	City	Rank	Volumes in Area
New York City, N.Y.	1	12,910,623	Augusta, Me. . . . .	39	989,944
Washington, D.C. . . . .	2	11,744,966	Des Moines, Iowa . . .	40	972,814
Boston, Mass.	3	10,709,614	Dayton, Ohio. . . . .	41	955,198
Chicago, Ill. . . . .	4	6,691,144	Corvallis, Ore. . . . .	42	903,154
Los Angeles, Calif.	5	6,564,016	Harrisburg, Pa. . . . .	43	902,802
Philadelphia, Pa. . . . .	6	4,805,252	Akron, Ohio. . . . .	44	799,509
Cleveland, Ohio. . . . .	7	3,835,889	Lansing, Mich. . . . .	45	797,736
San Francisco, Calif.	8	3,558,191	Nashville, Tenn. . . .	46	791,242
Newark, N.J. . . . .	9	2,955,827	Kansas City, Mo.: . .		
New Haven, Conn. . . .	10	2,868,781	Kansas City, Kans.	47	788,837
Providence, R.I.: Fall			Lowell, Mass. . . . .	48	784,843
River; New Bedford,			Austin, Tex. . . . .	49	783,391
Mass. . . . .	11	2,607,138	Bethlehem, Pa. . . . .	50	783,274
Baltimore, Md. . . . .	12	2,477,779	Concord, N.H. . . . .	51	782,818
Minneapolis, Minn. . .	13	2,475,322	Grand Rapids, Mich.	52	775,680
St. Louis, Mo. . . . .	14	2,269,662	Portland, Ore. . . . .	53	759,320
Princeton, N.J. . . . .	15	2,150,512	Atlanta, Ga. . . . .	54	715,842
Pittsburgh, Pa. . . . .	16	2,136,108	Columbia, Mo. . . . .	55	715,829
Springfield, Mass. . .	17	2,099,229	New Orleans, La. . . .	56	702,703
Cincinnati, Ohio. . . .	18	2,066,825	Syracuse, N.Y. . . . .	57	695,565
Albany, N.Y. . . . .	19	1,902,574	Hartford, Conn. . . . .	58	691,217
Columbus, Ohio . . . .	20	1,813,637	Iowa City, Iowa . . . .	59	679,405
Milwaukee, Wis. . . . .	21	1,565,732	Springfield, Ill. . . .	60	667,247
San Jose; Stanford,			Richmond, Va. . . . .	61	651,842
Calif. . . . .	22	1,555,791	Bakersfield, Calif. . .	62	641,660
Sacramento, Calif. . .	23	1,534,107	Toledo, Ohio. . . . .	63	620,711
Rochester, N.Y. . . . .	24	1,515,438	Poughkeepsie, N.Y.. .	64	613,535
Detroit, Mich. . . . .	25	1,404,736	Bridgeport, Conn. . . .	56	607,834
Madison, Wis. . . . .	26	1,341,899	Peoria, Ill. . . . .	66	607,659
Buffalo, N.Y. . . . .	27	1,341,455	Montpelier, Vt. . . . .	67	607,570
Worcester, Mass. . . .	28	1,315,636	Oklahoma City, Okla.	68	604,140
Topeka, Kan. . . . .	29	1,293,901	Lexington, Ky. . . . .	69	578,806
Indianapolis, Ind. . . .	30	1,266,031	Dallas, Tex. . . . .	70	570,746
Ithaca, N.Y. . . . .	31	1,264,920	Louisville, Ky. . . . .	71	537,494
Denver, Colo. . . . .	32	1,212,159	Waterbury, Conn. . . .	72	529,378
Urbana, Ill. . . . .	33	1,184,928	Hanover, N.H. . . . .	73	523,641
Chapel Hill; Durham,			Utica, N.Y. . . . .	74	514,373
N.C. . . . .	34	1,091,858	Lafayette, Ind. . . . .	75	513,855
Ann Arbor, Mich. . . . .	35	1,074,274	Birmingham, Ala. . .	76	508,381
Seattle, Wash. . . . .	36	1,064,818	San Diego, Calif. . . .	77	500,383
Lincoln, Neb. . . . .	37	1,031,052			
Fresno, Calif. . . . .	38	995,404	Total. . . . .	....	138,867,606

\* Source: *The American Library Directory, 1935* (N.Y. R. R. Bowker Co., 1935), supplemented by Spec. Libs. Assoc., Spec. Com., *Special Libraries Directory of the United States and Canada, 1935* (N.Y.: Spec. Libs. Assoc., 1935); U.S. Off. Educ., *Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1930-32*, chap. iii, Bull. 1935, No. 2 (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1935), *Patterson's American Educational Directory* (Chic. Amer. Educ. Co., 1935).

The specifications used in computing this table are too long for inclusion. In general, the area included does not cover more than 50 miles (airline) from center. When a city could be attached to more than one center, the total number of volumes in the area and transportation facilities were considered in allocating it. Public or college libraries of less than 20,000 volumes and special libraries of less than 5,000 volumes were not included. State lines were not crossed except in special cases. Centers such as Newark were maintained separately. No city was chosen as a center unless it contained one library having at least 75,000 volumes. Preference was given to state capitals, or cities in which state universities are located. Metropolitan areas were selected unless the library center would fall elsewhere.



cialized libraries, such as the Folger, Huntington, Crerar, Newberry, and John Carter Brown libraries, had brought to the use of American scholars a body and range of materials which tremendously reduced the difference between American and European libraries, even in the fields which have generally been of interest to the historian, the student of literature, and the paleographer. And this difference is being still further reduced by the rapid acquisition of such materials through photostat and film.

The distribution of these great collections has followed, in general, the pattern of growth in the fields of higher education and metropolitan concentration. Consequently, if public, college, university, and special libraries are thought of in relation to a metropolitan or other area with a radius of approximately fifty miles, it is found that there are at least 77 centers in the United States which, if the total resources of the major libraries in or near them are combined, contain 500,000 volumes, or more.<sup>5</sup>

Of the 77 such centers, New York has the largest number of volumes, 12,910,523. Washington ranks second with 11,744,966, and is followed by Boston with 10,709,614 volumes. Chicago and Los Angeles have more than 6,500,000 volumes each. The smallest center is San Diego, California, which falls just within the 500,000 limit. Table 37 and Figure 34 show the location and size of these centers.

Table 38 and Figure 35 summarize the information concerning the number of centers, the number of volumes, the population, and the number of volumes per capita, by regions. The Northeast has the greatest number of centers, volumes, and total population. The Far West has the highest per capita holdings. The range is from 2.18 in the Far West to 0.22 in both the Southeast and Southwest. The District of Columbia is treated separately and shows the very high per capita holdings of 24.12.

<sup>5</sup> Data compiled from *The American Library Directory, 1935*; Special Libraries Association, Special Committee, *Special Libraries Directory of the United States and Canada, 1935* (New York: Special Libraries Association, 1935); and from other minor sources.

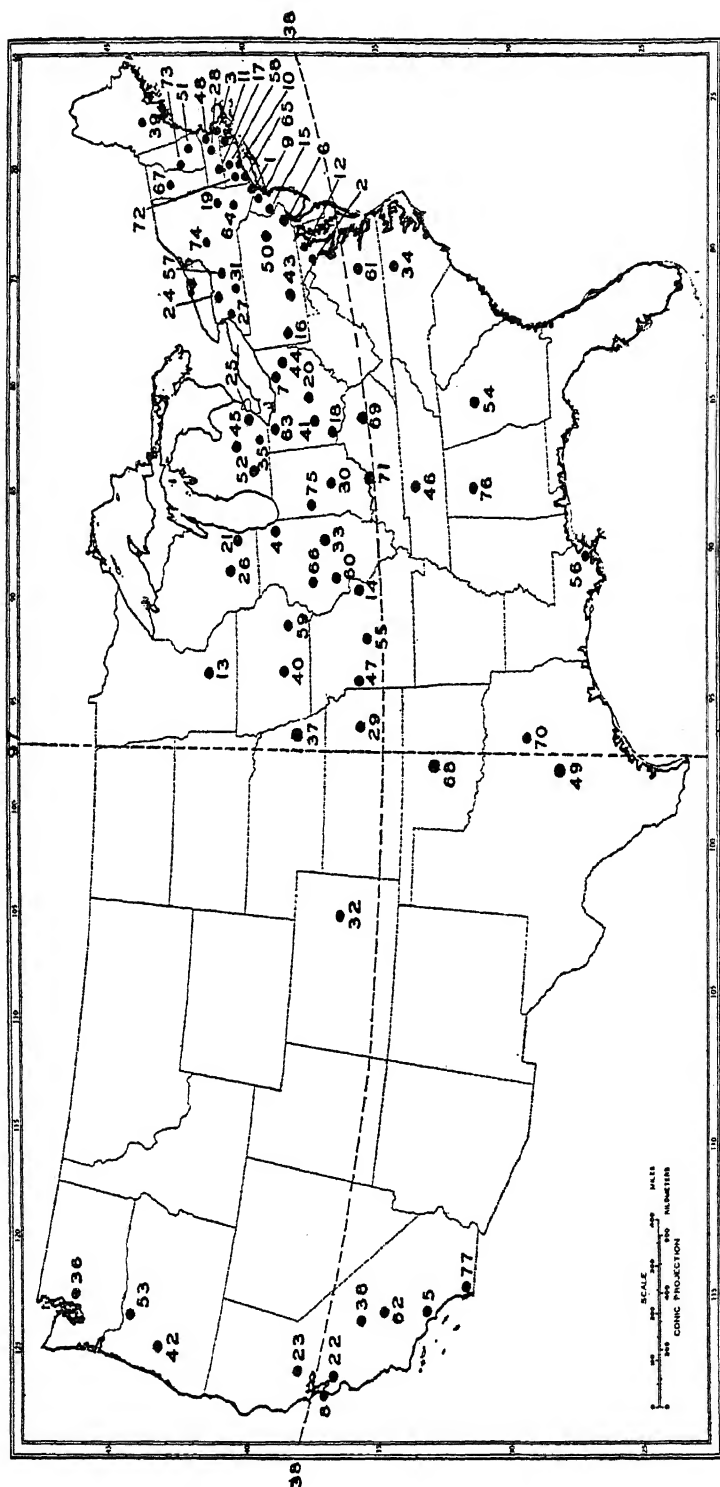


FIG. 34.—Seventy-seven library centers, of not over 50 miles radius (airline), containing 500,000 volumes, or more. Source: Same as for Table 37. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

If the map of the United States is divided into four quarters by lines running north and south along the 97th meridian, and east and west along the 38th parallel, as in Figure 34, it will be

TABLE 38\*

NUMBER, PER REGION, OF LIBRARY CENTERS CONTAINING 500,000  
VOLUMES, OR MORE, AND VOLUMES PER CAPITA

REGION	CENTERS	POPULATION	VOLUMES	
			Total	Per Capita
Far West... . . . .	10	8,285,491	18,076,844	2.18
Northeast... . . . .	28	38,026,202	62,087,680	1.63
Midwest... . . . .	24	33,961,444	35,884,559	1.06
Northwest... . . . .	3	7,384,497	3,537,112	0.48
Southwest... . . . .	3	9,079,645	1,958,277	0.22
Southeast... . . . .	8	25,550,895	5,578,168	0.22
District of Columbia... . . . .	1	486,869	11,744,966	24.12
Total... . . . .	77	122,775,046	138,867,606	1.13

\* Source: Table 37; U. S. Bur. For. Dom. Comm., *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1935* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1935), p. 5.

U. S. total, 138,867,606 vols.; U. S. mean, 1.13 vols.

This table includes the District of Columbia which, with its total number of volumes, population, and per capita holdings, is not included in the data for the Northeast region in which the center is located. If data are included, the total number of centers in the region is increased to 29, the total number of volumes to 73,832,646, the total population to 38,513,071, and the number of volumes per capita to 1.94. Only volumes contained in libraries within the centers are included in the totals.

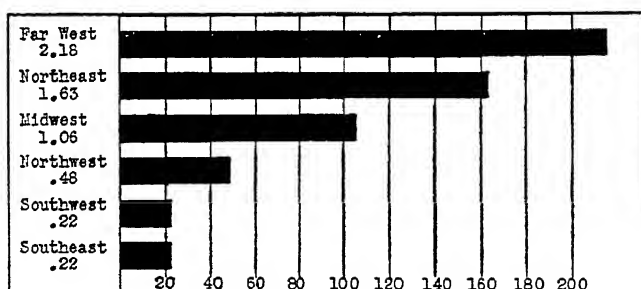


FIG. 35.—Regional summary of volumes per capita in library centers containing 500,000 volumes or more.

seen that the heavy concentration of these library centers is in the northeast quarter. If the District of Columbia is included, this quarter leads with 57 centers and 113,158,458 volumes; the

southwest quarter is second, with 8 centers and 15,202,976 volumes; the northwest quarter has 5 centers, and 5,473,558 volumes; and the southeast quarter has 7 centers and 5,032,614 volumes. The significance of these centers for scholarship and research requires no comment. They constitute one of the nation's greatest scholarly resources, and through them investigation and technological advance are greatly furthered. The unevenness of their distribution, however, places severe limitations upon investigation in certain parts of the nation.

#### RESOURCES FOR RESEARCH

The concentrations of library materials in the centers indicated in Table 37 and Figure 34 (Seventy-seven library centers, of not over 50 miles radius [airline], containing 500,000 volumes, or more), may be conceived of as representing basic materials for the use of scholars in research, although many of the volumes included might not be useful for that purpose. It would be of great value to scholars to know about the location and character of materials of this general nature. Interest in this subject was heightened in 1937 by the introduction of a bill, by Representative Ross Collins, providing for the establishment of five national regional libraries at New York, Chicago, Memphis, Denver, and San Francisco,<sup>6</sup> one function of which might logically be to supplement the resources of research for the respective regions.

Table 39 shows the distribution of volumes in (1) all state libraries, (2) public libraries of over 250,000 volumes, (3) general college and university libraries of over 75,000 volumes, (4) technical college libraries of over 25,000 volumes, and (5) all other special research collections. The idea of concentration of special materials is emphasized by selecting collections on this basis, inasmuch as concentration and selection are fundamental in libraries of this nature, in contrast with the case of more general collections.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Congress, House of Representatives, *H.R. 3699*, Bill introduced by Ross Collins, January 26, 1937. 75th Cong., 1st Sess. (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1937).

The value of such a table, however, would be greatly increased if it could be accompanied by special descriptions of materials such as those of the American Library Association Commit-

TABLE 39\*  
VOLUMES IN RESEARCH LIBRARIES, 1935

State	Rank	Volumes	State	Rank	Volumes
New York . . . . .	1	19,499,437	Kentucky . . . . .	25	840,336
Massachusetts . . .	2	10,780,966	Maine . . . . .	26	839,854
California . . . . .	3	9,661,095	New Hampshire . . .	27	749,145
Ohio . . . . .	4	7,762,584	Louisiana . . . . .	28	718,453
Illinois . . . . .	5	7,427,615	Nebraska . . . . .	29	574,449
Pennsylvania . . . .	6	6,640,464	Georgia . . . . .	30	516,736
Connecticut . . . .	7	3,336,899	Oklahoma . . . . .	31	481,877
Missouri . . . . .	8	3,273,524	Alabama . . . . .	32	456,589
Michigan . . . . .	9	3,062,294	West Virginia . . .	33	405,235
New Jersey . . . .	10	2,763,657	Arizona . . . . .	34	349,257
Minnesota . . . . .	11	2,557,529	Vermont . . . . .	35	332,998
Wisconsin . . . . .	12	2,451,290	Arkansas . . . . .	36	310,503
Maryland . . . . .	13	1,946,840	South Carolina . . .	37	306,728
Indiana . . . . .	14	1,787,511	Utah . . . . .	38	305,562
Texas . . . . .	15	1,475,574	North Dakota . . .	39	290,154
Oregon . . . . .	16	1,470,870	South Dakota . . .	40	264,166
Colorado . . . . .	17	1,423,193	Montana . . . . .	41	228,550
Iowa . . . . .	18	1,360,502	Idaho . . . . .	42	208,100
Washington . . . .	19	1,292,083	Wyoming . . . . .	43	133,111
Rhode Island . . . .	20	1,281,516	Delaware . . . . .	44	119,033
Kansas . . . . .	21	1,168,087	Nevada . . . . .	45	116,500
Virginia . . . . .	22	1,042,974	New Mexico . . . .	46	109,116
Tennessee . . . . .	23	982,420	Mississippi . . . .	47	93,385
North Carolina . . .	24	880,423	Florida . . . . .	48	30,820

\* Source: *The American Library Directory*, 1935.

U.S. total (not including District of Columbia), 104,109,951; U.S. total per capita, 0.85.

Research libraries include: (1) all state libraries, (2) public libraries of over 250,000 volumes, (3) general college and university libraries of over 75,000 volumes, (4) technical college libraries of over 25,000 volumes, and (5) all other research collections.

tee on Resources of Southern Libraries, the handbooks of the libraries of Harvard University, of the state of Texas, and Richardson's catalog of special collections.<sup>7</sup> This table empha-

<sup>7</sup> American Library Association, Committee on Resources of Southern Libraries, "Summary of Information on Southern Research Libraries" (Mimeographed; 1935); [A. C. Potter] *The Library of Harvard University: Descriptive and Historical Notes* (4th ed., Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1934); Texas Library Association,

sizes again the heavy concentration of research materials in the Northeast and the Midwest. The numbers of volumes by regions range from 48,696,044 in the Northeast, 29,682,849 in the Middle West, 12,540,495 in the Far West, 6,179,367 in the Southeast, 4,595,372 in the Northwest, to 2,415,824 in the Southwest. The table does not include the libraries of the District of Columbia, which contained, in 1935, 12,587,133 volumes.<sup>8</sup> These, including the Library of Congress and other highly specialized collections, are predominantly of a research character.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CENTERS

The year 1900 also marks, approximately, the beginning of the printing of cards by the Library of Congress, and of the extensive concentration of bibliographical apparatus in a number of important library centers. By printing cards for its own holdings and making copies of them available to other libraries through purchase, the Library of Congress not only laid the foundation for its own great bibliographical tool, the Union Catalog, but the foundation for other less extensive collections that have been developed in other regions. It also stimulated other libraries to print and exchange cards of their collections and thereby furthered the movement through which the location and bibliographical description of library materials are made available to scholars in every part of the nation.

Quite logically, one of the most extensive concentrations of bibliographical apparatus in the United States is that possessed by the Library of Congress, of which the most important single part is the Union Catalog. This great finding list, made possible in part by a special grant from John D. Rockefeller, Jr., of \$250,000 and by the co-operation of many libraries, was completed in 1932 and is being continued by means of Library of

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*Handbook of Texas Libraries, Number Four, 1835-1936* (Houston: Texas Library Association, 1935); E. C. Richardson, *An Index Directory to Special Collections in North American Libraries* (Provisional ed.; Yardley, Pa.: F. S. Cook and Son, 1927).

<sup>8</sup> D. S. Hill, *The Libraries of Washington* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1936), p. 246.

Congress funds and the assistance of co-operating libraries. Unlike others of the great bibliographical tools which are in printed form,<sup>9</sup> the Union Catalog is in card form and

combines in one author alphabet all holdings of the Library of Congress, together with selected holdings of over six hundred libraries whose contributions ranged from a few entries to complete records of their collections. Its total resources amount to more than 15,000,000 card entries, 9,000,000 of which represent book locations in the United States and Canada. (The symbols used in designating holding libraries have been selected mainly from the *Union List of Serials*, and adapted to the special requirements of the Union Catalog.) The remaining 6,000,000 cards comprise a number of separate instruments, including the Index to Special Collections, bibliographies of special subjects, catalogs of foreign libraries (such as the British Museum Catalog, now in process of being reduced to card form, and a card catalog of the Vatican Library), and over 2,000,000 cards which form the basis of a future subject catalog. The most important of these auxiliary lists is the Index to Special Collections, representing over 5,000 collections and arranged alphabetically by subject, locality, and name of collection.<sup>10</sup>

Next in importance to the bibliographical apparatus of the Library of Congress are the bibliographical holdings of a dozen or more public, university, and special libraries of the country, in which are to be found depository sets of the cards printed by the Library of Congress, supplemented not only by the cards of the institution in which the depository set is located but by those of other libraries which print similar cards and maintain such collections. Cards of this character have been printed by a number of university libraries such as Harvard, Chicago, Michigan, and Illinois, by special libraries such as the Newberry and John Crerar libraries of Chicago, and by foreign libraries such as the Prussian State Library and the Vatican Library, and

<sup>9</sup> Bibliographical Society of America, *Census of Fifteenth Century Books Owned in America . . .* (New York: The Society, 1919); *Union List of Serials in Libraries of the United States and Canada*, Winifred Gregory, ed. (New York: H. W. Wilson Company, 1927); *Supplement* January, 1925 to June, 1931, edited by Gabrielle E. Malikoff, 1931; *Supplement* July, 1931 to December, 1932, edited by Gabrielle E. Malikoff, 1933; *List of the Serial Publications of Foreign Governments, 1815-1931*, Winifred Gregory, ed. (New York: H. W. Wilson Company, 1932); "Union List of Newspapers in the Libraries of the United States and Canada," now being compiled at the Library of Congress under the direction of Winifred Gregory.

<sup>10</sup> Ernest Kletsch, "The Union Catalog of the Library of Congress: History, 1901-1936" (Mimeographed; April 2, 1936).

when added to the cards of a given institution and the Library of Congress, form an invaluable finding list for the use of local scholars.

The development of the kind of bibliographical apparatus just described has usually been undertaken by a single institution. Within recent years, particularly during the depression years, such union lists have been developed through the co-operation of a number of libraries within a region. The nature of the catalog is the same, only it is developed through co-operation and serves the scholars of a center or a region rather than of a single institution or library. The libraries of the University of North Carolina and Duke University began such a co-operative undertaking in 1935.<sup>11</sup> Each library contains a set of the main entry cards of the other. In addition, other libraries in North Carolina are collaborating in developing a union catalog located at the University of North Carolina. Libraries in the metropolitan areas of Philadelphia<sup>12</sup> and Cleveland<sup>13</sup> have developed union catalogs covering the contents of two hundred or more libraries, and provision has been made for the continuation of the lists after the task of first compilation is completed. These libraries have been assisted by the Emergency Relief or Works Progress Administration of the federal government. Similar cooperation by libraries in Atlanta, Nashville, Austin, and Denver is underway. Still other union lists covering only one field, as newspapers, or medicine, have been developed, as in Chicago, for the use of scholars and physicians within the region or more limited area. This kind of co-operation, when coupled with the interlibrary loan service which usually prevails throughout the country, makes the speedy exchange of information and books possible and to that extent greatly facilitates all forms of scholarly research. Such regional bibliographical ap-

<sup>11</sup> R. B. Downs and Harvie Branscomb, "A Venture in University Library Co-operation," *Library Journal*, LX (1935), 877-79.

<sup>12</sup> Paul Vanderbilt, "The Philadelphia Union Catalog," Louis R. Wilson, ed., *Library Trends* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1937), pp. 200-234.

<sup>13</sup> R. C. Binkley, *Manual on Methods of Reproducing Research Materials* (Ann Arbor: Edwards Bros., Inc., 1936), pp. 158-59.



paratus is especially required in the Southeast, the Southwest, the Northwest, and the Far West, where the centers with large holdings are comparatively few and small, and where the distance to other centers and to the Library of Congress is great.

Figure 36 shows the location of fifty-five Library of Congress card depository sets where copies of all main author cards published by the Library of Congress are to be found. Until 1936 there was no such depository set in the Rocky Mountain area. The Southeast has five, the Southwest, two, the Far West, six, the Northwest, one, the Midwest, sixteen, and the Northeast, eighteen. Regional union catalogs based upon these sets have been developed, or are being developed, at Philadelphia, Cleveland, Chapel Hill-Durham, Nashville, Atlanta, Austin, and Denver, and the number of libraries co-operating varies in each center from a comparatively few at Chapel Hill and Nashville to approximately 150 at Philadelphia.

#### DEPOSITORIES FOR FEDERAL DOCUMENTS

The documents issued by local, state, and national governments form a very important part of the resources for investigation in the social sciences. To facilitate the building up of collections of materials of this nature, the federal government has for many years designated certain libraries as depositories to receive all or parts of its publications. The number of such libraries in 1933 was 499.<sup>14</sup> Since 1931, the Social Science Research Council and the American Library Association have undertaken to provide centers which assume responsibility for the collection of national, state, and local documents as well. As a result of the work of the American Library Association's Committee on Public Documents, at least one document center has been designated in every state,<sup>15</sup> the field has been so divided among libraries that documents in the various categories

<sup>14</sup> Cf. U.S. Government Printing Office, *Annual Report of the Public Printer, 1933* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1934), p. 49. "Only 94 libraries (of the 499) selected all classes of government publications available for depositories."

<sup>15</sup> "Committee on Resources," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXVI (1932), 553-55.

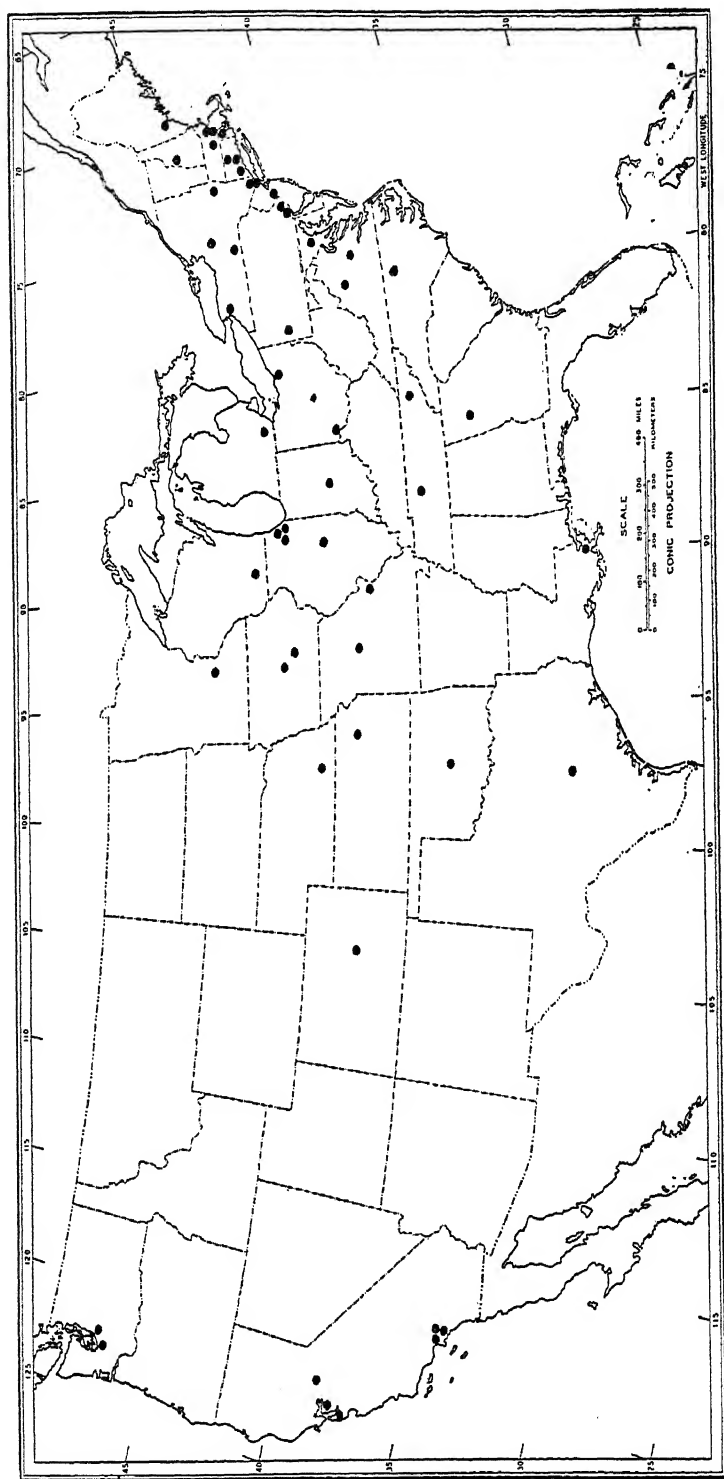


FIG. 36.—Depositories for Library of Congress cards. Source: U.S. Library of Congress, *Report of the Librarian of Congress for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1936* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1936). (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

are being systematically collected and made accessible to students, and a series of monographs has been issued, dealing with these collections and their use.<sup>16</sup> Although the distribution of federal documents has been provided on a basis which brings such materials within the range of students in all sections of the country, revision of the provisions under which they are distributed could easily extend and increase their effectiveness.

#### COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The establishment of the college library in America is antedated only by the private collections of the few colonists who brought books to America with them prior to 1636. Harvard College was founded in that year, and the first college library in America was begun two years later. Prior to the Revolution, nine college libraries were established along the eastern seaboard.<sup>17</sup>

Today, every institution of higher education largely centers its work of instruction and investigation in the library. Books on the administration of the library,<sup>18</sup> standards for its effective operation,<sup>19</sup> courses on its use by students, and efforts on the part of college and university administrators, instructors, and librarians are directed towards enabling the library to function appropriately in the attainment of college and university educational objectives. Carefully planned buildings are designed to aid in this undertaking, and endowment funds and annual appropriations to maintain effective service are generally provided.

The character of the book collection has also received increasingly careful consideration.<sup>20</sup> Its size, the number of volumes es-

<sup>16</sup> American Library Association, Committee on Public Documents, *Public Documents: 1934; 1935; 1936* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1934; 1936; 1936).

<sup>17</sup> Louis Shores, *Origins of the American College Library, 1638-1800* (Nashville: George Peabody College, 1934).

<sup>18</sup> W. M. Randall and F. L. D. Goodrich, *Principles of College Library Administration* (Chicago: American Library Association and University of Chicago Press, 1936).

<sup>19</sup> Douglas Waples, *et al.*, *The Library* ("Evaluation of Higher Institutions," No. 4; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1936).

<sup>20</sup> C. B. Shaw, comp., *A List of Books for College Libraries* (2d ed.; Chicago: American Library Association, 1931); F. E. Mohrhardt, comp., *A List of Books for Junior College Libraries* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1937).

sential to support individual courses, the number and character of journals, the building up of special materials for research<sup>21</sup> by the various departments and schools, the accumulation of photostats and films<sup>22</sup>—all these have been steadily kept in mind, as will be further revealed in the tables and figures which follow, dealing both with the number of volumes in college and university libraries and with the amount which is expended for them.

In 1935, 6,235 public libraries reported the possession of 100,470,215 volumes and a total expenditure for operating expenses, including salaries, books, and other maintenance charges, of \$45,855,400. They served registered borrowers who were estimated by the American Library Association to number 26,000,000, and to whom they loaned a total of 449,998,845 volumes.<sup>23</sup>

In 1932, the U.S. Office of Education published corresponding figures for college and university libraries for the year 1931-32. In that year, 1,460 universities, colleges, professional schools, and teacher training institutions possessed libraries containing 52,919,063 bound volumes, spent \$11,379,044 on their maintenance (books and permanent equipment not included), and made them available to a clientele of 1,154,117 students and 100,789 instructors. The expenditures represented an increase of \$1,757,486, or 18.3 per cent, over the corresponding item for 1929-30, and came to 2.7 per cent of the total<sup>24</sup> of all educational and general expenditures.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>21</sup> M. L. Raney, "The University Libraries," Vol. VII of the *University of Chicago Survey* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1933).

<sup>22</sup> M. L. Raney, ed., *Microphotography for Libraries* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1936).

<sup>23</sup> "Public Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXIX (1935), 252-53, 443.

<sup>24</sup> Books are not included in this total or per cent of the educational budget, but, with permanent equipment, are classed as capital outlays. Inasmuch as books are usually considered to represent 40 per cent of the expenditure of a university library, the total expenditures for all library purposes, including books, may be estimated at \$18,965,067, or 3.78 per cent of the educational budget.

<sup>25</sup> U.S. Office of Education, *Biennial Survey of Education, 1930-1932*, chap. iii.

TABLE 40\*

VOLUMES IN COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES PER CAPITA POPULATION  
20-24 YEARS OF AGE, 1932

STATE	RANK	VOLUMES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Capita	
Connecticut . . . . .	1	2,604,579	19 75	4 31
Massachusetts . . . . .	2	5,117,588	14 81	2 83
New Hampshire . . . . .	3	371,434	10 65	1 59
Rhode Island . . . . .	4	545,730	9 63	1 29
Vermont . . . . .	5	243,276	8 74	1 02
Maine . . . . .	6	470,473	7 77	0 73
Colorado . . . . .	7	663,382	7 63	0 69
Nevada . . . . .	8	54,337	7 46	0 64
Oregon . . . . .	9	576,173	7 39	0 62
Minnesota . . . . .	10	1,482,993	6 92	0 48
Maryland . . . . .	11	986,941	6 77	0 43
Iowa . . . . .	12	1,292,158	6 42	0 33
Montana . . . . .	13	278,356	6 36	0 31
Utah . . . . .	14	283,371	6 15	0 25
Washington . . . . .	15	798,928	6 13	0 24
Wisconsin . . . . .	16	1,492,432	6 11	0 24
California . . . . .	17	2,872,990	6 05	0 22
Ohio . . . . .	18	3,133,438	5 55	0 07
Illinois . . . . .	19	3,715,446	5 50	0 05
South Dakota . . . . .	20	325,161	5 46	0 04
Kansas . . . . .	21	880,337	5 42	0 03
Wyoming . . . . .	22	110,039	5 38	0 02
Nebraska . . . . .	23	639,382	5 29	-0 01
Missouri . . . . .	24	1,655,379	5 28	-0 01
Virginia . . . . .	25	1,030,175	4 73	-0 18
Indiana . . . . .	26	1,210,979	4 55	-0 23
New Jersey . . . . .	27	1,540,906	4 40	-0 27
Pennsylvania . . . . .	28	3,482,933	4 28	-0 31
North Dakota . . . . .	29	254,539	4 12	-0 36
New York . . . . .	30	4,491,043	3 94	-0 41
Idaho . . . . .	31	145,323	3 88	-0 43
Michigan . . . . .	32	1,564,787	3 74	-0 47
Arizona . . . . .	33	147,779	3 65	-0 50
North Carolina . . . . .	33	1,112,826	3 65	-0 50
Tennessee . . . . .	35	834,187	3 36	-0 59
Kentucky . . . . .	36	738,171	3 33	-0 59
New Mexico . . . . .	37	117,721	3 11	-0 66
Texas . . . . .	38	1,589,030	2 74	-0 77
South Carolina . . . . .	39	422,399	2 54	-0 83
Georgia . . . . .	40	663,677	2 30	-0 90
Delaware . . . . .	41	44,923	2 23	-0 92
West Virginia . . . . .	42	333,646	2 17	-0 94
Oklahoma . . . . .	43	479,671	2 08	-0 97
Florida . . . . .	44	280,445	2 03	-0 98
Louisiana . . . . .	45	346,878	1 68	-1 09
Arkansas . . . . .	46	272,423	1 55	-1 13
Alabama . . . . .	47	380,669	1 47	-1 15
Mississippi . . . . .	48	267,588	1 34	-1 19

\* Source. U.S. Off. Educ., *Biennial Survey of Education, 1930-1932*, chap. iii, pp. 118-19.

Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), 5 32; standard deviation, 3.348; U.S. total, 52,919,053; U.S. volumes per capita (including District of Columbia), 4.87.

Table 40 and Figures 37 and 38 show the number of volumes in college and university libraries per inhabitant 20-24 years of age for each state and region. From the table, it is apparent that states which have the most volumes also tend to make the largest expenditures for library support, although the Far West and the Southwest, which have been settled more recently than the eastern seaboard and the Midwest, are making relatively larger expenditures to make up for the newness of their collections. Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire have the greatest number of volumes per inhabitant 20-24 years of age, and Mississippi, Alabama, and Arkansas, the smallest. The range is from 19.75 to 1.34. In the Northeast, Connecticut leads with 19.75 per capita, and West Virginia ranks lowest with 2.17. In the Far West, Nevada stands first with 7.46, and California lowest with 6.05. In the Midwest, Minnesota ranks highest with 6.92, and Michigan lowest with 3.74. Within the Northwest, Colorado ranks first with 7.63, and North Dakota lowest with 4.12. In the Southwest, Arizona stands highest with 3.65, and Oklahoma lowest with 2.08. In the Southeast, Virginia ranks first with 4.73 and Mississippi last with 1.34.

The Northeast, Far West, and Northwest all have at least twice as many volumes per capita as do either the Southwest or Southeast. And, as has been shown in chapter ii, these inequalities tend to perpetuate themselves even though the per cent of increase in holdings may be greater in those regions in which, at present, collections are relatively small. This is strikingly illustrated by Table 41 which shows the number of volumes in a number of college and university libraries in 1935-36, the number of volumes added in that year, the amount expended for books and the average annual increase in volumes from 1926.<sup>26</sup> The collections of the Midwest and Far West universities have also been built up much more rapidly than those of the Southeast, although the latter are much older than the former. The growth of all libraries in the higher educational

<sup>26</sup> J. T. Gerould, comp., "Statistics of University Libraries, 1925-35" (Mimeographed); J. A. McMillen, comp., "Statistics of Southern University Libraries, 1925-36" (Planographed).

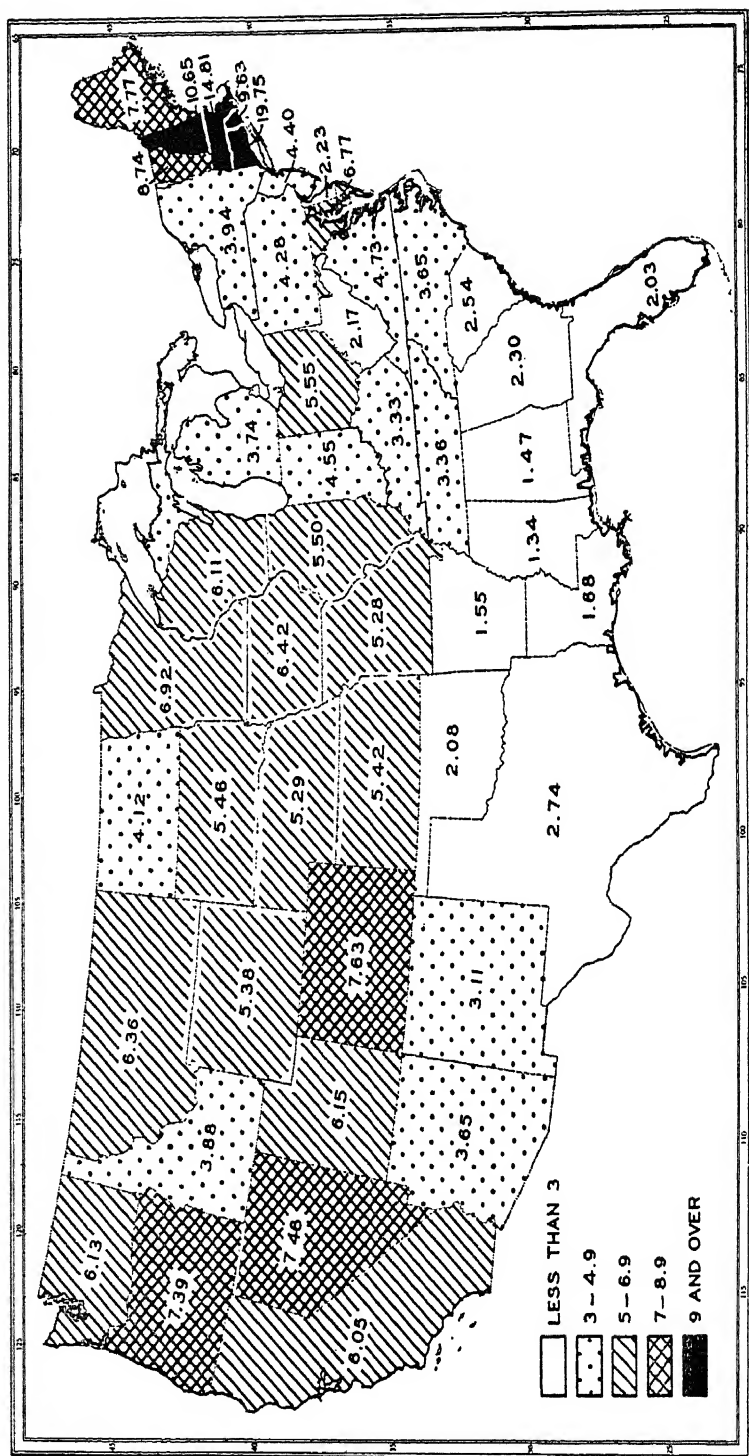


FIG. 37.—Volumes in college and university libraries per capita population 20-24 years of age, 1932. Source:<sup>85</sup> Same as for Table 40. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

field, however, as the opening paragraphs of this chapter indicated, has been steady. It has undoubtedly contributed greatly to the advance in American scholarship.

THE CENTER OF POPULATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATIONAL  
LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES, 1870-1930

In chapter i, the centers of population with library service, without library service, of general population, of public libraries, and of all libraries were presented in Figure 10, prepared by W. C. Eells of Stanford University. In Figure 39, similar centers are computed by Mr. Eells for normal schools, privately



FIG. 38.—Regional summary of volumes in college and university libraries per capita population 20-24 years of age, 1932.

and publicly controlled colleges and universities, and for higher education, or total enrolment of institutions of higher education. These, in turn, are generally related to the centers of population for the corresponding period. During the sixty-year period the center of actual population has moved slowly westward along the 39th parallel. The center of total enrolment has extended along a longer line to the north, while the actual centers of college library volumes have been above the 40th parallel. The center of volumes in privately controlled libraries is near the center of Ohio, whereas the center of volumes in publicly controlled libraries is just below the 40th parallel in northwestern Missouri. The center for normal schools ranged still higher above the 40th parallel until 1930, when it dropped perpendicularly below the parallel in west central Illinois.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>27</sup> W. C. Eells, "The Center of Population of Higher Educational Libraries in the United States, 1870-1930," *Library Quarterly*, VI (1936), 175-81.



TABLE 41\*

## STATISTICS OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, 1926-36

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY LIBRARY	VOLUMES			EXPENDED FOR BOOKS 1935-36
	Total 1935-36	Added 1935-36	Average An- nual Increase 1926-36	
Alabama . . . . .	171,670	18,004	14,811	\$ 17,996 00
Arkansas. ....	133,000	6,259	5,676	24,024 13
Brown. ....	499,027	17,877	14,783	42,973 00
Bryn Mawr. ....	154,931	4,212	3,844	19,791 46
California ....	944,589	31,047	27,891	93,739.41
Chicago ....	1,161,859	44,041	39,330	145,026.89
Colorado . . . .	262,828	8,464	8,017	23,842 11
Columbia. ....	1,520,089	43,633	42,775	164,323.74
Cornell. . . . .	955,681	16,892	16,855	53,319 92
Dartmouth . . .	418,451	15,808	18,345	55,822.00
Florida. . . . .	122,844	7,663	9,259	9,782 28
Georgia. ....	117,308	3,724	5,557	11,790 00
Harvard . . . . .	3,795,502	132,473	117,310	242,291.52
Illinois. . . . .	1,052,684	40,746	34,383	113,910.70
Indiana . . . . .	292,894	10,294	10,470	28,685.43
Iowa State . . .	411,889	15,965	14,576	54,162.64
Johns Hopkins . .	481,163	9,139	18,810	38,789 95
Kansas. . . . .	278,467	11,171	8,656	38,219 00
Louisiana State ..	152,605	12,730	8,243	74,538.62
Michigan. ....	955,623	30,016	30,571	124,435 00
Minnesota. ....	833,513	48,459	33,201	166,758.89
Mississippi. ....	56,492	4,636	1,649	5,786 08
Missouri. . . . .	333,045	15,526	9,226	29,000 00
Nebraska. ....	305,999	9,283	9,695	41,720.76
Northwestern . .	533,420	26,811	25,299	67,832.16
North Carolina . .	325,524	20,000	14,549	41,142 00
North Dakota . . .	119,235	2,636	2,792	8,241 00
Oberlin. ....	363,628	8,606	8,821	18,755 00
Ohio. ....	455,228	14,909	14,932	25,486.57
Oregon. ....	269,215	10,472	10,188	23,427.09
Pennsylvania . . .	840,495	14,458	20,543	53,176.47
Princeton. ....	744,090	20,771	14,989	65,195.10
Rochester . . . .	297,689	17,329	13,399	62,452.79
Smith. . . . .	236,275	8,919	9,041	20,257.40
Stanford . . . . .	659,897	24,024	23,938	52,002 37
Texas. . . . .	509,127	17,782	12,111	49,299 30
Tulane. . . . .	209,512	9,228	14,788	32,672 38
Vanderbilt . . . .	109,080	6,571	1,908	20,052 00
Vassar. . . . .	201,000	5,990	5,020	17,590.09
Virginia. . . . .	265,273	16,693	12,527	26,761 21
Washington (St. Louis). .	305,515	7,426	2,763	36,112.32
Washington (Seattle)...	385,809	18,860	21,114	40,518.66
Wellesley. ....	171,703	5,561	5,179	19,764 04
Wisconsin. ....	489,240	13,640	11,179	62,263 00
Yale. ....	2,558,179	113,777	72,008	144,254.00

\* Source: J. T. Gerould, comp., "Statistics of University Libraries, 1925-35" (Mimeo.), J. A. McMillen, comp., "Statistics of Southern University Libraries, 1925-36" (Plano.).

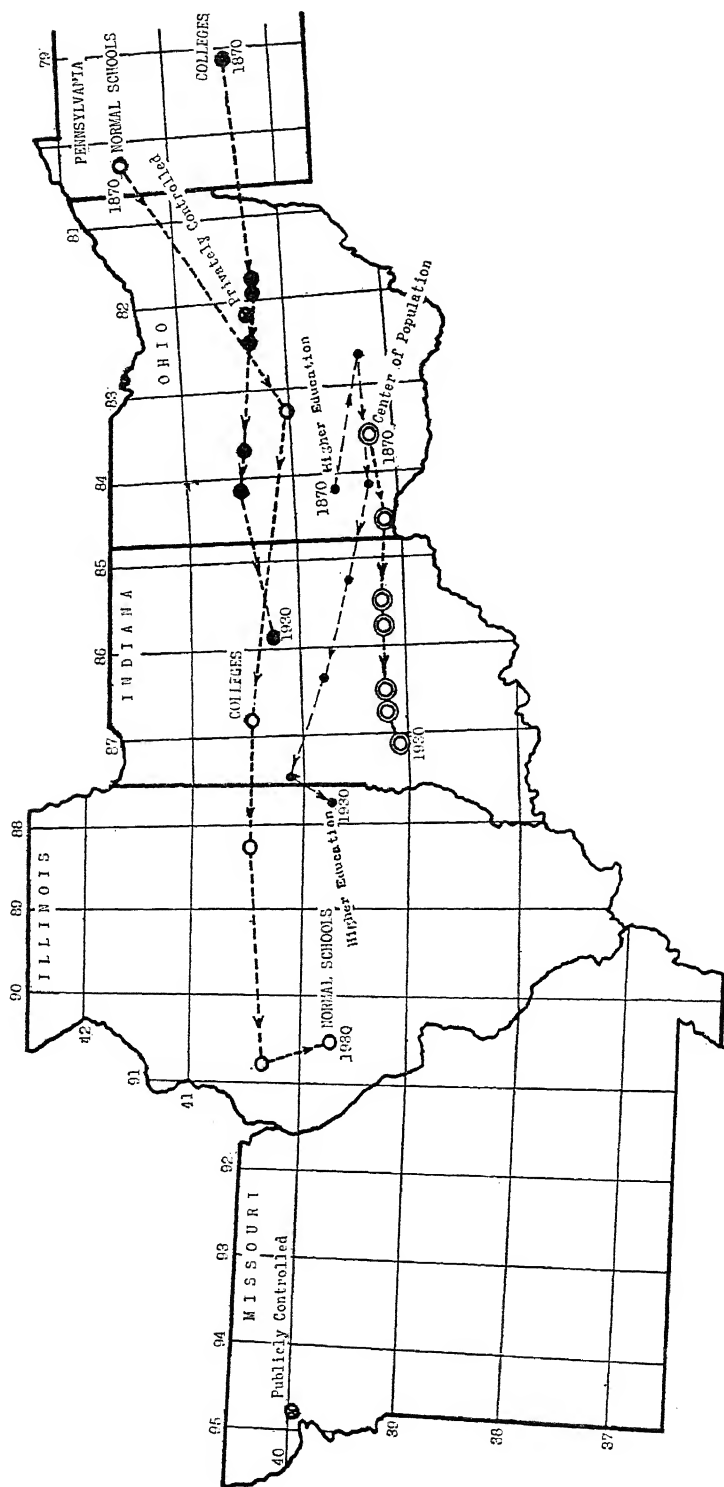


FIG. 39.—Location and movement of centers of population of higher educational libraries, 1870-1930. Source: W. C. Eells, "The Center of Population of Higher Educational Libraries in the United States, 1870-1930," *Library Quarterly*, VI (1936), 175-81.

## COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY EXPENDITURES

Table 42 and Figures 40 and 41 show in dollars the expenditure for libraries in institutions of higher education per 1,000 population in 1931-32. There is a strong tendency for relatively high expenditures for college libraries to coincide by state and region with relatively high public library expenditures, and vice versa. Statistics of higher educational institutions require care in interpretation. The data presented on the map are for all publicly and privately supported colleges, universities, professional schools, teachers colleges, and normal schools within each state. They are adjusted to total population rather than to enrolment, partly to render the data more exactly comparable with those for public libraries and partly because of the questionable comparability of available enrolment statistics. Thus, assuming approximately the same proportion of the population of the various states to be of college age—a condition which is nearly enough true for purposes of comparison—the data presented may be considered as an index of expenditure of college libraries in proportion to the number of potential college library users, and also as an index of the relative economic burden which college libraries impose upon the areas represented. Actually, of course, the large amount of interstate migration of students and of interstate support tend partially to invalidate any comparison on a basis of states. Hence, the total population of each state probably provides as accurate a base as any for adjustment of the data.

The regional summary of college and university library expenditure (Figure 41) shows that more than twice as much money in proportion to population was spent during the school year 1931-32 on college and university libraries of the Far West as was spent on those of the Southeast. It is noteworthy that this disparity is much less than was the case with public library expenditure. In the case of the Northeast, there is the possibility that a comparison between it and the other regions may be somewhat misleading. Inasmuch as college and university li-

TABLE 42\*  
COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY EXPENDITURES PER  
1,000 POPULATION, 1931-32

STATE	RANK	EXPENDITURES†		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 1,000 Population	
New Hampshire . . . . .	1	\$ 191,453	\$411 47	4 95
Connecticut . . . . .	2	407,083	253 33	2 50
Massachusetts . . . . .	3	1,065,008	250 61	2 46
Oregon . . . . .	4	137,118	143 76	0 80
California . . . . .	5	785,329	138 33	0 72
Illinois . . . . .	6	969,534	127 06	0 54
Colorado . . . . .	7	123,672	119 40	0 43
Nebraska . . . . .	8	164,103	119 09	0 42
New York . . . . .	9	1,474,634	117 15	0 39
Iowa . . . . .	10	267,619	108 31	0 25
Minnesota . . . . .	11	264,398	103 12	0 17
Michigan . . . . .	12	486,775	100 53	0 13
Maryland . . . . .	13	162,063	99 33	0 11
Montana . . . . .	14	52,844	98 31	0 10
Kansas . . . . .	15	183,262	97 43	0 08
Ohio . . . . .	16	643,969	96 89	0 08
Virginia . . . . .	17	233,709	96 50	0 07
South Dakota . . . . .	18	66,312	95 71	0 06
Arizona . . . . .	19	38,916	89 34	-0 04
Vermont . . . . .	20	31,423	87 38	-0 07
North Dakota . . . . .	21	59,389	87 23	-0 07
Nevada . . . . .	22	7,341	80 62	-0 18
Utah . . . . .	23	39,470	77 72	-0 22
North Carolina . . . . .	24	244,454	77 11	-0 23
Indiana . . . . .	25	244,999	75 65	-0 25
Idaho . . . . .	26	33,144	74 48	-0 27
Maine . . . . .	26	59,391	74 48	-0 27
Wyoming . . . . .	28	16,436	72 87	-0 30
New Mexico . . . . .	29	30,780	72 71	-0 30
New Jersey . . . . .	30	290,059	71 77	-0 31
Wisconsin . . . . .	31	209,186	71 18	-0 32
Washington . . . . .	32	108,314	69 28	-0 35
Tennessee . . . . .	33	173,296	66 23	-0 40
Missouri . . . . .	34	222,591	61 33	-0 47
Oklahoma . . . . .	35	143,761	60 00	-0 49
Kentucky . . . . .	36	154,849	59 22	-0 51
Texas . . . . .	37	335,105	57 53	-0 53
Pennsylvania . . . . .	38	548,992	57 00	-0 54
Delaware . . . . .	39	12,620	52 94	-0 60
Florida . . . . .	40	73,349	49 96	-0 65
Louisiana . . . . .	41	98,177	46 72	-0 70
Georgia . . . . .	42	122,838	42 23	-0 77
Rhode Island . . . . .	43	28,839	41 95	-0 77
South Carolina . . . . .	44	71,269	40 99	-0 79
West Virginia . . . . .	45	69,527	40 21	-0 80
Arkansas . . . . .	46	55,096	29 71	-0 96
Alabama . . . . .	47	65,146	24 62	-1 04
Mississippi . . . . .	48	49,239	24 50	-1 04

\* Source: U. S. Off. Educ., *Biennial Survey of Education, 1930-32*, chap. 11, pp 113-14.  
Mean per 1,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), \$91 94; standard deviation, \$64.60; U. S.  
total, \$11,379,044, U. S. expenditures per 1,000 population (including District of Columbia), \$92 68.

† This does not include expenditures for new books and other equipment.

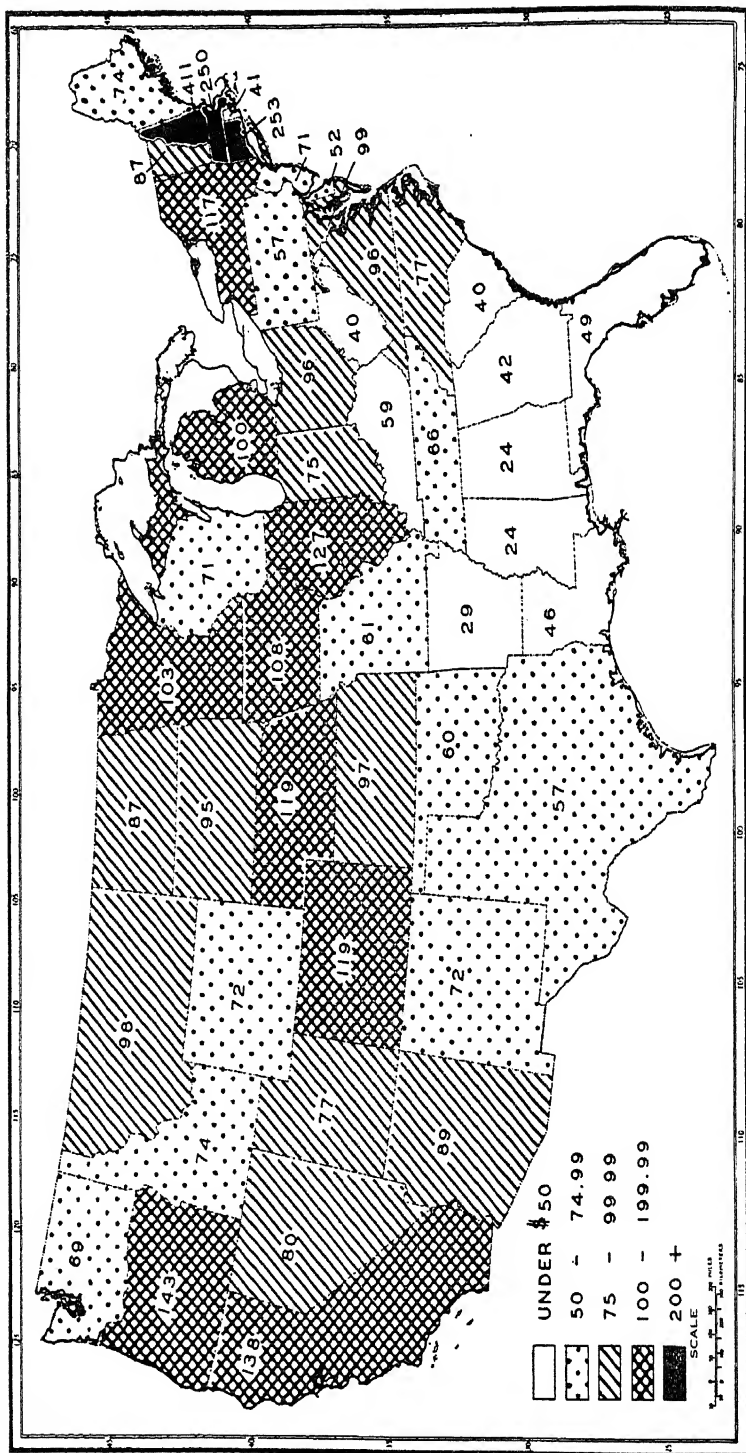


FIG. 40.—College and university library expenditures per 1,000 population, 1931-32. Source: Same as for Table 42. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

braries of the Northeast have been relatively well developed for a considerable time, as compared with those of the newer sections of the country, it may be that the expenditure of smaller sums suffices to maintain their collections than is required to build up and maintain those of the Far West. Furthermore, the proximity of extensive research collections in such libraries as those at Harvard, Yale, Columbia, and in the Boston Public Library, the New York Public Library, and the Library of Congress—an advantage lacking in other sections of the country—might well influence the policies of eastern libraries in

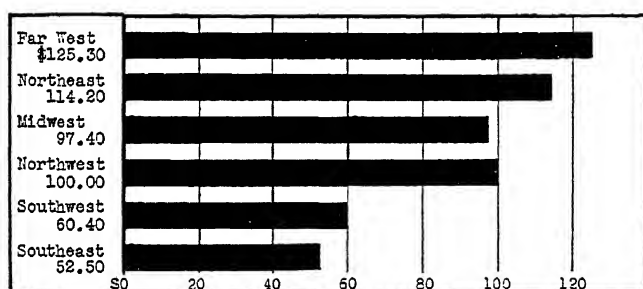


FIG. 41.—Regional summary of college and university library expenditures per 1,000 population, 1931-32.

building up their collections. It should also be borne in mind that the Northeast, on the basis of the regional classification followed in these pages, is a fairly heterogeneous region.

The data presented in Table 42 and Figures 40 and 41, while showing the amount of college and university library expenditures per 1,000 population, give no indication of the per cent of the total educational budgets of institutions which is constituted by the library expenditures. Such a per cent has, at times, been used as a standard, although no arbitrary standard has been generally accepted for judging the adequacy of expenditure. It is unfortunate that terms employed in determining per cents have not been accurately defined, and data have not been assembled on sufficiently similar bases to render them comparable. A further complication in the situation is the fact that in the case of the 1,460 libraries under review, the institutions

range from normal schools and junior colleges to professional schools and major universities. And an added difficulty is that the data for libraries collected by the Office of Education cover operating expenditures but do not include expenditures for books and permanent equipment. These are classed as capital outlays and are not specifically segregated.

In reading Table 43, it is therefore desirable that the expenditure indicated be thought of as representing approximately 60 per cent of the total library expenditures when books and equipment are included. Institutions in this general category usually give 50 per cent to salaries, 40 per cent to books, including periodicals and bindings, and 10 per cent to all other purposes. From this table it is seen that the variation is from 12.22 per cent for Clark University to 0.91 per cent for Cornell. If these per cents represented the total expenditure for library purposes, including the purchase of books, they would be increased, respectively, to approximately 20 per cent and 1.5 per cent.

In the case of libraries in 14 selected colleges and universities, Mr. Works found the range to be from 7.0 to 2.2 per cent,<sup>28</sup> and Mr. Randall, in a study of 205 college libraries, found the average expenditure for college libraries to be 9.3 per cent of the college's total expenditures for instructional purposes.<sup>29</sup> Mr. C. H. Brown found that 8 out of 45 land-grant colleges spent less in 1928 than 1 per cent of their total operating expenditures on their libraries; 20, between 1 and 2 per cent; 14, between 2 and 3 per cent; 6, between 3 and 4 per cent; and 4 spent 4 per cent or more.<sup>30</sup> Mr. Rosenlof found the range in per cent for six groups of teacher-training institutions to be from 1.26 to 7.59, and for all six combined 3.84.<sup>31</sup> Both of these

<sup>28</sup> G. A. Works, *College and University Library Problems: A Study of a Selected Group of Institutions* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1927), Appendix.

<sup>29</sup> W. M. Randall, *The College Library* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1932), p. 14.

<sup>30</sup> U.S. Office of Education, *Survey of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities*, Bulletin 1930, No. 9, I, Part VIII (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1930), 707.

<sup>31</sup> G. W. Rosenlof, *Library Facilities of Teacher-training Institutions* (New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1929), p. 129.

TABLE 43\*

RATIO OF LIBRARY EXPENDITURES (OTHER THAN BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT) TO TOTAL EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL EXPENDITURES IN THIRTY INSTITUTIONS BELONGING TO THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES, 1931-32

INSTITUTION	RANK	LIBRARY EXPENDITURES	
		Total	Per Cent of Educational and General Expenditures
Clark University. . . . .	1	\$ 25,350	12 22
Harvard University. . . . .	2	620,274	7 01
Yale University. . . . .	3	351,421	5 74
Princeton University. . . . .	4	121,398	5 11
Northwestern University. . . . .	5	190,100	5 00
University of Chicago†. . . . .	6	341,922	4 23
University of Virginia. . . . .	7	55,448	4 01
Columbia University. . . . .	8	541,486	3 91
University of Texas. . . . .	9	69,438	3 65
Catholic University of America. . . . .	10	21,192	3 64
University of Michigan. . . . .	11	294,671	3 48
Stanford University. . . . .	12	99,795	3 43
University of North Carolina. . . . .	13	37,233	3 25
University of Nebraska. . . . .	14	102,803	3 22
Johns Hopkins University. . . . .	15	84,297	3 14
University of Illinois. . . . .	16	201,223	3 01
University of California. . . . .	17	304,341	2 93
University of Kansas. . . . .	18	51,246	2 84
State University of Iowa. . . . .	19	108,960	2 47
Indiana University. . . . .	20	59,795	2 30
Ohio State University. . . . .	21	120,111	2 13
University of Minnesota. . . . .	22	139,987	2 12
Washington University (St. Louis). . . . .	23	42,452	1 97
University of Mississippi. . . . .	24	6,871	1 81
Massachusetts Institute of Tech. . . . .	25	59,487	1 68
University of Pennsylvania. . . . .	27	97,780	1 47
Brown University‡. . . . .	27	16,813	1 47
California Institute of Tech. . . . .	27	9,438	1 47
University of Wisconsin. . . . .	29	79,286	1 19
Cornell University. . . . .	30	68,634	0 91

\* Source: U. S. Off. Educ., *Biennial Survey of Education, 1930-32*, chap. iii, pp. 264-89.

† The per cents are supposedly only approximately 60 per cent of the total expenditures for library purposes, as books are not included.

‡ The data for Brown seem entirely too low and altogether out of line with expenditures published elsewhere for many years. The data for Chicago, on the same basis, seem to cover books as well as operating expenditures. There may be other discrepancies, but these are so obvious that they are noted.



men considered the expenditure very inadequate. Mr. Randall has recently reviewed the expenditure of a number of college libraries in an article in which he refers to them as "Our Starving College Libraries."<sup>32</sup> The North Central Association, in its recent revision of standards, departs entirely from the conventional measures of per cent of educational budget, or per student expenditure, and bases its rating of excellence principally upon the two items of expenditures for books and salaries, treating the latter so as to account for variations in enrolment.<sup>33</sup>

Marked stimulation to increase the financial support of college libraries in the United States and to provide book collections more properly adjusted to student and faculty needs has been given in recent years to liberal arts and junior colleges by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Grants totaling \$961,000 for books were given to 81 four-year liberal arts colleges from 1928 to 1932, and \$300,000 was allocated in May, 1937, to 92 junior colleges.<sup>34</sup>

#### COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY CIRCULATION

In the public library field circulation and number of registered borrowers constitute the principal measures of library use. Likewise, in college and university libraries records are generally kept of circulation of reserved books and of books issued for a period of two weeks. Until within a short time the amount and character of the library's efficiency has been judged largely by such records, which have served as a kind of institutional thermometer, determining the extent and excellence of the library's service. Recently, however, additional measures have been proposed by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools<sup>35</sup> for determining these qualities. These

<sup>32</sup> W. M. Randall, "Our Starving College Libraries," *Illinois Libraries*, XVIII (1936), 219-25.

<sup>33</sup> Waples, *et al.*, *op. cit.*, chap. vii.

<sup>34</sup> R. M. Lester, *The Development of Junior College Libraries* (New York: Carnegie Corporation of New York, 1937).

<sup>35</sup> Waples, *et al.*, *op. cit.*, chap. vii.

TABLE 44\*  
VOLUMES IN SPECIAL LIBRARIES PER 100 POPULATION, 1934

STATE	RANK	VOLUMES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100 Population	
Massachusetts . . . . .	1	3,662,049	86.2	3 40
California . . . . .	2	3,455,364	60 8	2 14
Oregon . . . . .	3	547,783	57 4	1.98
Arizona . . . . .	4	200,000	45 9	1.41
New York . . . . .	5	5,586,492	44 4	1 33
New Hampshire . . . . .	6	196,700	42 3	1 23
Connecticut . . . . .	7	679,537	42 2	1.22
Vermont . . . . .	8	138,870	38 6	1 04
Pennsylvania . . . . .	9	2,215,602	23 0	0 27
Wyoming . . . . .	10	50,000	22 1	0 23
Ohio . . . . .	11	1,445,757	21 7	0 21
Maryland . . . . .	12	344,979	21 1	0 18
Rhode Island . . . . .	13	135,072	19 6	0 10
Delaware . . . . .	14	39,930	16 7	-0 01
Illinois . . . . .	15	1,102,122	14 4	-0 15
Minnesota . . . . .	16	325,412	12 7	-0 24
Wisconsin . . . . .	17	304,580	10 3	-0 36
Michigan . . . . .	18	429,304	8 9	-0 43
Indiana . . . . .	19	242,567	7 5	-0 49
Iowa . . . . .	20	183,778	7 4	-0.50
Colorado . . . . .	21	68,440	6 6	-0.54
Missouri . . . . .	22	208,195	5.7	-0 58
New Jersey . . . . .	23	222,477	5 5	-0.59
Montana . . . . .	24	25,000	4 6	-0 64
Louisiana . . . . .	25	94,561	4.5	-0.64
Nebraska . . . . .	26	61,358	4 4	-0.65
West Virginia . . . . .	27	75,000	4 3	-0.65
Washington . . . . .	28	58,090	3.7	-0.68
Kansas . . . . .	29	66,957	3.6	-0.69
Alabama . . . . .	30	84,700	3.2	-0.71
Texas . . . . .	31	178,417	3.1	-0 72
North Dakota . . . . .	32	20,000	2.9	-0 72
North Carolina . . . . .	33	88,430	2 8	-0 73
Virginia . . . . .	34	66,200	2 7	-0 73
Tennessee . . . . .	35	41,025	1.6	-0 79
South Carolina . . . . .	36	12,000	0 7	-0 83
Georgia . . . . .	37	11,500	0 4	-0 85
Arkansas . . . . .	38	4,673	0 2	-0 86

\* Source: Compiled from Spec Libs Assoc, Spec Com, *op. cit.*, pp 1-174.

Mean per 100 population (based on means of the 38 states), 17.5; standard deviation, 20 18; U.S. total, 27,038,113; U.S. volumes per 100 population (including District of Columbia), 24.29.

The following states were excluded, due to lack of data: Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Maine, Utah.

Table includes: (1) libraries holding membership in the Special Libraries Association; (2) all other special libraries in the United States, so far as known, (3) special departments and collections in large public libraries and universities.

The pamphlet material, clippings, photographs, etc., contained in these libraries constitutes a very large part of their service.

measures are: (1) the number of general reference books held by the library that are contained on a check list of selected titles; (2) the number of periodicals currently subscribed to from a check list of periodicals preferred by college libraries; (3) the average annual expenditure for books and periodicals during the past five years; (4) the annual expenditure for library salaries, weighted for the size of enrolment; (5) the average annual number of free loans per student; and (6) the average annual number of loans to faculty members.

Through these combined checks, supplemented by a careful examination of the integration between the library, the faculty, and the student body in the major enterprise of teaching, the college library of today undertakes to measure its effectiveness. For the university they also hold good, but additional measures of adequacy of resources and facilities for research are required.

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES

The advance in technological development since 1900 has been one of the most distinctive phenomena of American life. The automobile, the radio, air conditioning—these and a thousand other modern inventions have sprung up with amazing rapidity. This advance, in turn, has been accompanied by the development of special libraries which, while occasionally included in public and university libraries, have usually been established for particular uses under special institutional or industrial auspices.

The Special Libraries Association, founded in July, 1909, began its activities with a membership of fifty members. In 1935, the number had grown to more than 1,800, affiliated through sixteen chapters, and 1,475 special libraries were described in the third edition of the Association's *Directory*.<sup>36</sup>

Table 44 and Figures 42 and 43 indicate the distribution of these libraries on the basis of volumes per 100 population in 1934. The regional differences for this type of library are greater than for any other type so far considered. They reflect the re-

<sup>36</sup> Special Libraries Association, Special Committee, *op. cit.*, Preface.

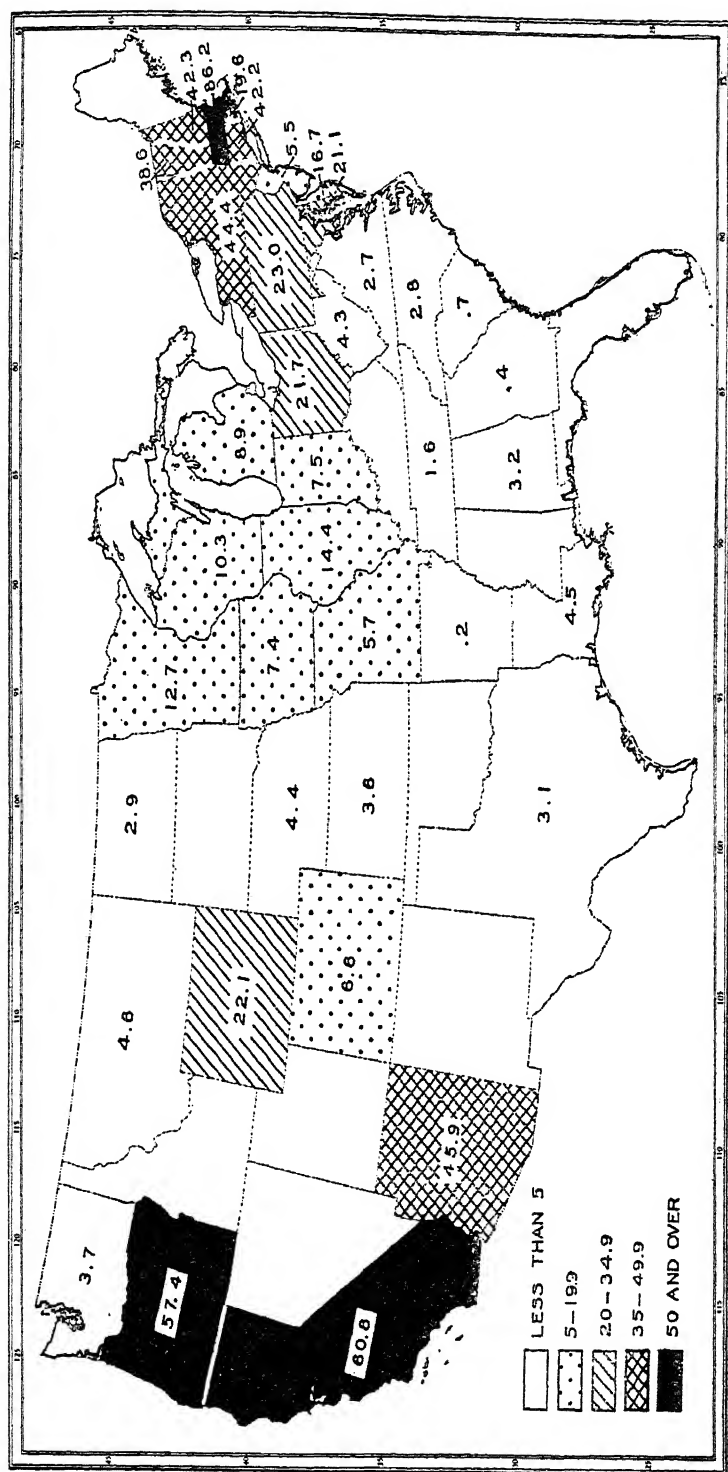


FIG. 42.—Volumes in special libraries, per 100 population, 1934. Source: Same as for Table 44. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

gional grouping referred to under college and university libraries and in a sense serve as a measure of urbanization, inasmuch as special libraries ordinarily exist only in the larger centers. The highly industrialized states of New England, the Middle Atlantic States, and the industrial areas of the Middle West share with California and Oregon in the distinction of having developed this type of library on an extensive scale, while ten states, on the basis of the data used in compiling the table,<sup>37</sup> have failed entirely to develop them. The range is from 86.2 to 0.0. The pattern of the map in this instance corresponds,

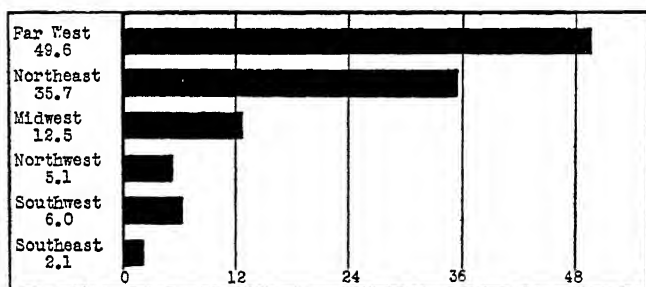


FIG. 43.—Regional summary of volumes in special libraries, per 100 population, 1934.

generally, with that of library distribution but departs rather sharply from it in several instances. According to this table, the Southeast (excluding Florida, Kentucky, and Mississippi, for which there are no data) contains 403,089 volumes; the Northeast (excluding Maine), 13,296,708; the Midwest, 4,241,715; the Northwest (excluding Idaho, South Dakota, and Utah), 291,755; the Southwest (excluding New Mexico and Oklahoma), 378,417; and the Far West (excluding Nevada), 4,061,237.

#### STATE LIBRARIES

The first state libraries to be established in the United States were those of New Jersey and Pennsylvania in 1796. Since then, every state has established such a library to serve its officers in one or more capacities. In addition to this primary serv-

<sup>37</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 1-174.

ice, the state library, or some other library agency, has been established by the state to perform other state functions of a library character. Library extension service agencies, legislative reference libraries, state law or supreme court libraries, state archives, and historical commissions, either connected with the state library or independent of it, have been provided for these various purposes. Altogether, as reported in "Federal Relations to Libraries," there are 136 such collections, which contained in 1935 approximately 12,000,000 volumes.<sup>38</sup>

The per capita appropriations range from 0.5 cents in Texas to 10.3 cents in Nevada, with an average for the nation of 2.2 cents. The expenditures for state libraries, while actually increasing in total amount since 1915, have declined by half, when considered in relation to the per cent of state revenue which they now receive.

The total appropriations for these services, as reported in June, 1937, were: state libraries, \$1,333,441; library extension agencies, \$444,990; legislative reference, \$207,972; state law, or supreme court libraries, \$134,382; archives, \$106,959; historical commissions, \$246,520; grand total, \$2,398,054.<sup>39</sup> Detailed information concerning these expenditures is shown in Table 45.

#### FEDERAL LIBRARIES

Reference has been made in chapter i to the various types of library service rendered by the federal government through its emergency relief program since 1933. The bibliographical services of the Library of Congress, library service to the blind, the distribution of public documents to depository libraries, and other federal library services have been referred to in this and other chapters. A statement dealing specifically with the major research collections of the federal government and other types of federal library service may be made here.

<sup>38</sup> American Library Association, Special Committee on Federal Relations, "Federal Relations to Libraries" (Mimeographed, 1937).

<sup>39</sup> These data were prepared by Paul A. T. Noon, Director of the Ohio State Library, June 1, 1937.

TABLE 45\*

## ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS TO STATE LIBRARY AGENCIES FOR PERIOD COVERED BY LATEST BUDGET

State	Year	State Library	Extension	Legislative Reference	State Law or Supreme Court	Archives	Historical	Total	Per Capita (In Cents)
Alabama.....	1936-37	\$ 16,493	\$.....	"	\$ Fees	"	\$	\$ 16,493	0.6
Arizona.....	1937-39 <sup>b</sup>	21,100	"	"	"	"	"	21,100	4.8
Arkansas.....	1937-38	"	50,000 <sup>c</sup>	"	"	"	6,605 <sup>d</sup>	56,605	3.1
California.....	1937-39 <sup>b</sup>	132,990	"	11,810 <sup>a</sup>	"	"	7,080 <sup>a</sup>	132,990	2.4
Colorado.....	1935-37 <sup>b</sup>	4,000	"	6,300	"	"	5,250	23,350	2.3
Connecticut.....	1935-36	130,235	7,647	"	"	"	"	137,982	8.6
Delaware.....	1936-37	"	9,250	"	3,550	6,875	"	19,675	8.3
Florida.....	1936-37	6,400	"	"	4,650	"	"	11,050	0.8
Georgia.....	1936	19,707	8,405	"	"	4,845	"	32,957	1.1
Idaho.....	1937 & 38 <sup>b</sup>	"	14,146	"	13,960	"	2,998	31,104	7.0
Illinois.....	1935-37 <sup>b</sup>	34,075	32,880	40,360	3,500	11,680	52,200	174,695	2.3
Indiana.....	1936-37	85,000	"	14,500	10,260	"	9,000	118,760	3.7
Iowa.....	1937-39	41,916	9,750	"	"	"	"	51,666	2.1
Kansas.....	1937-38	20,930	8,580	"	"	"	"	29,510	1.0
Kentucky.....	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
(Changing organization—data unavailable)									
Louisiana.....	1936	10,200	26,950	"	"	"	"	37,150	1.8
Maine.....	1936-37	43,300	"	"	"	"	"	43,300	5.4
Maryland.....	1937-38	8,340	"	8,925	"	17,148	"	34,413	2.1
Massachusetts.....	1935-36	60,702	19,970	"	"	"	"	80,672	1.9
Michigan.....	1935-37 <sup>b</sup>	30,000	"	"	"	"	"	30,000	0.6
Minnesota.....	1937-38	23,000	18,325	"	"	"	"	41,325	1.6
Mississippi.....	1936-38 <sup>b</sup>	7,162	3,750	"	"	7,090 <sup>d</sup>	"	18,002	0.9
Missouri.....	1936	16,400	7,797	"	"	"	18,260	42,457	1.2
Montana.....	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Nebraska.....	1935-37	14,438	12,500	6,250	(Data unavailable)	"	"	33,188	2.5

\* Source: Prepared by P. A. T. Noon, Ohio State Library, June 1, 1937.

a Included in State Library budget.

b Includes \$31,800 State Aid.

c Half of biennial appropriation listed.

d Included in Historical Budget.

TABLE 45\*—Continued

State	Year	State Library	Extension	Legislative Reference	State Law or Supreme Court	Archives	Historical	Total	Per Capita (In Cents)
Nevada.....	1937-39 <sup>b</sup>	\$ 9,390	\$ . . . <sup>n</sup>	\$ . . . <sup>n</sup>	\$ . . . . . <sup>n</sup>	\$ . . . <sup>n</sup>	\$ . . . <sup>n</sup>	\$ 9,390	10.3
New Hampshire . . . . .	1936-37	22,685	12,925	. . . <sup>n</sup>	. . . . . <sup>n</sup>	. . . . . <sup>n</sup>	500	36,110	7.8
New Jersey . . . . .	1937	29,140	45,080	. . . <sup>n</sup>	. . . . . <sup>n</sup>	. . . . . <sup>n</sup>	. . . . .	74,220	1.8
New Mexico . . . . .	1936-37	.....	5,000	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	5,000	1.2
New York . . . . .	1937-38	205,560	46,625	14,560 <sup>a</sup>	11,740 <sup>a</sup>	. . . . .	8,200 <sup>a</sup>	252,185	2.0
North Carolina . . . . .	1937-38	11,950	16,663	4,972	6,200	20,944	.....	60,729	1.9
North Dakota . . . . .	1935-37 <sup>b</sup>	4,325	9,575	. . . . .	. . . . . <sup>n</sup>	2,700	2,580	19,180	2.8
Ohio . . . . .	1936	37,309	..... <sup>a</sup>	6,135	21,750	.....	20,350	85,444	1.3
Oklahoma . . . . .	1937-39 <sup>b</sup>	23,993	28,610	. . . . .	. . . . . <sup>n</sup>	.....	27,600	80,203	3.4
Oregon . . . . .	1937 & 38 <sup>b</sup>	52,858	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	11,950	.....	8,125	72,933	7.6
Pennsylvania . . . . .	1936-37	45,299	18,795	42,500	13,444	11,962	. . . . .	132,000	1.4
Rhode Island . . . . .	1937-38	20,645	3,000	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	10,700	3,100	.....	37,445	5.5
South Carolina . . . . .	1936-37	4,979	.....	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	4,979	0.3
South Dakota . . . . .	1935-36	5,166 <sup>a</sup>	9,150	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	4,061	.....	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	18,377	2.7
Tennessee . . . . .	1936-37	18,802	13,356 <sup>f</sup>	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	..... <sup>a</sup>	..... <sup>a</sup>	32,158	1.2
Texas . . . . .	1936-37	27,370	2,350	2,850 <sup>a</sup>	2,800	4,350 <sup>a</sup>	.....	30,170	0.5
Utah . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	(Data incomplete)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Vermont . . . . .	1935-36	16,800	9,500	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	.....	6,000	32,300	9.9
Virginia . . . . .	1936-37	35,490	4,425	10,810	7,500	13,835	. . . . .	72,060	3.0
Washington . . . . .	1937-39 <sup>b</sup>	17,950	.....	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	14,477	2,430	. . . . .	34,857	2.2
West Virginia . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	. . . . .	. . . . .	.....	. . . . .	.....	. . . . .
Wisconsin . . . . .	1936-37	17,342	54,132	38,000	. . . . . <sup>a</sup>	.....	61,500	170,974	5.8
Wyoming . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	. . . . .	. . . . .	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total . . . . .	. . . . .	\$1,333,441	\$444,990	\$207,972	\$134,382	\$106,959	\$246,520	\$2,398,054	2.2

\* Includes \$947 from other sources.

<sup>f</sup> Includes \$6,250 grant from General Education fund.



From the records of ancient civilizations it is apparent that libraries have been associated with the growth of governments of major importance. They have been essential to governmental activity of many kinds.<sup>40</sup> This has been the case in the development of government in the United States, and is evidenced by the establishment of the Library of Congress, in 1800, and other federal libraries since that time to serve the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government and its various departments, commissions, and affiliated organizations, both within and without the District of Columbia. Mr. Hill lists 166 such libraries in Washington, alone, which contained 10,830,900 volumes in 1934, as contrasted with 106,200 volumes in the Library of Congress (50,000 volumes) and in other federal libraries in 1849.<sup>41</sup> Library service to national parks, to federal prisons, to the Tennessee Valley Authority, and to other federal agencies outside Washington has likewise assumed many forms and has been developed in varying degrees.

As has been previously shown, the Library of Congress takes first rank not only among the libraries of the federal government, but, likewise, among the great national libraries of the world. Its classification scheme, its card distribution and bibliographical service, and its union catalog of the books in its own collection and those in other libraries in the United States not only serve administrators and scholars within Washington but are of the greatest use to libraries and scholars throughout the nation and the entire world. Its resources are likewise supplemented by the highly developed collections of the Smithsonian Institution (807,047 volumes), the Office of the Superintendent of Documents (750,000 volumes), Army Medical Library (386,393 volumes), the Department of Agriculture (226,000 volumes), the U.S. Office of Education, the U.S. Geological Survey, *et al.*, which contain thousands of volumes of highly specialized books, periodicals, and pamphlets available, under appropriate restrictions, to scholars who visit Washington or through interlibrary loan, film, or photostat to distant scholars, when such services are feasible.

<sup>40</sup> Hill, *op. cit.*, p. 1.

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 244.

A final reference may be made to other kinds of service rendered libraries and the public by federal agencies. The Smithsonian Institution maintains an exchange service through which scholarly publications issued by educational and scientific institutions and learned societies may be exchanged for publications from similar organizations abroad; under certain limitations such institutions are permitted to import, free of duty, books published in the English language in foreign countries; a low postal rate has been granted libraries for the mailing of books to residents in local areas; and through the U.S. Office of Education information and statistics concerning various aspects of library service are collected and published.

#### THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Since the beginning of library development in America, one of the functions of many libraries has been the preservation and administration of manuscript and historical material relating to the various activities of the federal, state, and local governments. Libraries such as those of the American Antiquarian Society, the Pennsylvania and Wisconsin Historical Societies, and various state libraries and archives, have collected, conserved, and made available to scholars millions of pages of material, manuscript and print, which constitute the basic sources of American history.

The federal government, however, took no such action for the preservation and administration of the papers and documents originating in federal offices until 1926. At that time an appropriation was passed for the erection of a National Archives building in Washington, and in 1934 Congress passed an act providing for the establishment and operation of the National Archives. In the same year, the first National Archivist was appointed, and the organization of an administrative staff was begun. In 1935-36 the work of this American public records office commenced.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>42</sup> U.S. National Archives, *First Annual Report of the Archivist of the United States for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1935* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1936).

The relationship of this new national organization to libraries is too obvious to require more than briefest mention. The National Archives has two fundamental objectives: (1) the concentration and preservation in a central depository of the archives of the United States government, and (2) the arrangement and administration of these archives in such manner as to make them easily accessible to officials and students desiring to use them. These objectives place the new organization in the field with libraries, assuming as its express task that of dealing with the official archives of the nation, in contradistinction to the task of historical societies and libraries in general, which is to collect and to make available materials relating to state and local units of government, as well as other manuscript and printed materials.

In this new organization, established on a national basis and supported by federal funds, the American public and the libraries have an additional resource from which to serve the interests of the entire nation. The various divisions of the National Archives, like those of the Library of Congress which have served libraries in many beneficial ways, have begun to formulate plans and procedures for the cleaning, filing, and filming in libraries of materials having wide application throughout the country. The archival project, which the institution organized under the Works Progress Administration, for collecting, restoring, and cataloging archival and similar materials in all the states, has already resulted in wide extension of such resources throughout the country.

#### SUMMARY

The history of the development of American college, university, reference, special, state and federal libraries still awaits the writing. An occasional discussion has appeared here and there,<sup>43</sup> but the support which these libraries have given to the

<sup>43</sup> Shores, *op. cit.*; L. R. Wilson, "The Service of Libraries in Promoting Scholarship and Research," *Library Quarterly*, III (1933), 127-45; H. M. Lydenberg, *A History of the New York Public Library: Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations* (New York: New York Public Library, 1923; U.S. Bureau of Education, *Public Libraries in the United States of America, Their History, Condition and Management: Special Report*,

formulation of educational policies and objectives, to teaching, to research, to publication, to industry, and to public administration has not been described. Contributing to this total support have been the College and Reference Section, the College Library Advisory Board, and the Board on Resources for Research of the American Library Association, the Association of Research Libraries, the National Association of State Libraries, the American Association of Law Libraries, the Bibliographical Society of America, the Special Libraries Association, the American Library Institute, and other library organizations. These organizations, in turn, have been tremendously aided by the Library of Congress, by other federal libraries, and by educational foundations in placing the bibliographical resources of the nation at the disposal of scholars and in extending and enriching national library resources.

From the data included in this chapter there is abundant evidence that since 1900 the library resources of America available to the scholar have been greatly extended. Seemingly, they outrank the resources furnished for the general public, although they are usually available to members of the public through interlibrary loan and in other ways. They are largely concentrated in the northeastern quarter of the nation, and procedures for their use by scholars in less well-supplied regions have not been as fully developed as they should be. Extension of the bibliographical resources of the Library of Congress, development of bibliographical centers and regional union catalogs, where they are lacking, and the rapid extension of the reproduction of important materials through photostat and film, all seem to promise amelioration of this condition.

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Part I (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1876); G. W. Cole, *Early Library Development in New York State, 1800-1900* (New York: New York Public Library, 1927); S. S. Green, *Public Library Movement in the United States, 1853-1893* ("Useful Reference Series," No. 8; Boston: Book Company, 1913); Boston Athenaeum, *The Athenaeum Centenary: The Influence and History of the Boston Athenaeum from 1807-1907* (Boston: Boston Athenaeum, 1907); H. G. Wadlin, *The Public Library of the City of Boston: A History* (Boston: Printed at the Library and published by the Trustees, 1911); Hill, *op. cit.*; J. I. Wyer, Jr., *The State Library* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1919).

## CHAPTER VI

### SCHOOL AND OTHER LIBRARIES

THE American public school is distinctive among the public school systems of the world. It makes provision at public expense for the training of all pupils from the elementary school through the high school. In recent years, in many places, it has extended the period through the junior college. In 1933-34 the enrolment in the elementary schools, public and private, was 23,262,371, and in public and private high schools, 6,096,488, or approximately 60 per cent of the total population of high school age in the country.<sup>1</sup>

The development of the school library has been one of the most characteristic features of school organization and improvement since 1900. It has paralleled the changes in methods of teaching. As a result, the use of many library materials has largely taken the place of the use of single textbooks; students, are now given assignments based on these materials rather than on single texts. Individual work based on library materials has in many instances replaced pupil-participation in formal recitations.

Practice with regard to the provision and administration of school library service has varied widely, and there is at present far less agreement concerning it than is desirable. In the majority of instances, the libraries of elementary schools are less well developed than those of high schools, and in both instances practice is largely dependent upon the regulations developed by local and state educational authorities. Elementary school library service usually takes the form of classroom collections administered by grade teachers, with books frequently supplied by the local public or county library through arrangements between the school and library authorities. High school library

<sup>1</sup> Correspondence with U.S. Office of Education.

service, however, is more frequently organized within the school. It is administered by a librarian in central library rooms or study halls within the school building; it is usually supported out of school funds, either under the direct supervision of the school or in conjunction with the local public or county library; and general rules or standards for its organization, support, and use are formulated by local or state educational authorities. In case the high school is a member of a regional accrediting agency, it conforms also to the regulations promulgated by the agency for its general guidance. Service to the public is sometimes furnished by school libraries, and in some instances both school and public libraries are located in school buildings.

The effort to present data concerning these libraries is difficult in the extreme, as no single agency has published such information since 1929,<sup>2</sup> at which time the Office of Education recorded whatever data could be secured from school libraries having 3,000 volumes, or more. Obviously, this limitation eliminated thousands of school libraries in both the elementary and high school fields, in the former because very few elementary school libraries are organized on a large unit basis, and because thousands of high school libraries, though usually organized on a unit basis, fall below the 3,000 volume mark. The data are also made largely invalid, except for general comparative pur-

<sup>2</sup> The U.S. Office of Education is at present completing a statistical study of public, elementary, and secondary school libraries for 1934-35. The following data were released in August, 1937, but distributions by states were unavailable. One hundred, three thousand, and eighty-one schools reported. Of these 27,766 schools were served by centralized libraries and 33,624 by classroom libraries. A total of 61,390 were served in one or the other of these ways.

These schools were embraced within city, county, or city-county school systems, and all libraries ranging from under 500 to more than 10,000 volumes were included. The schools enrolled 12,501,017 pupils, or approximately two-fifths of the total enrolment of all public, elementary, and secondary schools, in 1934-35. Of the 12,501,017 pupils enrolled, 7,214,321 were served by libraries of the centralized type.

The total number of volumes in centralized libraries was 28,612,500, and the additions for the year were 1,901,128. The expenditures for the year for school systems reporting these items (incomplete) were: books and pamphlets, \$2,239,433; periodicals, \$229,063; binding and rebinding, \$220,321; salaries, \$3,722,227; equipment, \$99,646; all other purposes, \$105,972; total, \$6,868,251.

The returns are tentative and subject to revision. They represent approximately one-half of the cities and 30 per cent of the counties.

TABLE 46\*

VOLUMES IN SCHOOL LIBRARIES OF 3,000 VOLUMES, OR MORE, PER  
10 INHABITANTS 5-17 YEARS OF AGE, 1929

STATE	RANK	VOLUMES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 10 Inhab- itants 5-17 Years of Age	
California. . . . .	1	1,186,945	9 94	2 60
New Hampshire. . . . .	2	100,850	9 13	2 25
Wisconsin. . . . .	3	610,965	8 13	1 82
New York. . . . .	4	2,206,029	7.75	1 69
Colorado. . . . .	5	199,569	7 55	1 60
Minnesota. . . . .	6	475,720	7 19	1 43
Montana. . . . .	7	99,293	7 02	1 34
Washington. . . . .	8	253,610	6 99	1 34
Connecticut. . . . .	9	284,822	6.91	1 30
Mississippi. . . . .	10	36,432	5 92	0.87
Missouri. . . . .	11	470,529	5 47	0.67
Arizona. . . . .	12	63,741	5.27	0 61
Michigan. . . . .	13	642,882	5.21	0 56
Kansas. . . . .	14	231,889	4.85	0.39
Idaho. . . . .	15	61,163	4 78	0.39
Iowa. . . . .	16	286,710	4.65	0.35
Oregon. . . . .	17	99,997	4.58	0.30
South Dakota. . . . .	18	83,931	4.25	0.17
West Virginia. . . . .	19	213,578	4.03	0.04
Utah. . . . .	20	60,817	3 90	0.00
Illinois. . . . .	21	680,633	3.79	-0 04
Maryland. . . . .	22	150,994	3 71	-0 09
Maine. . . . .	23	70,961	3 59	-0 13
Massachusetts. . . . .	24	350,417	3 45	-0 22
Indiana. . . . .	25	264,013	3 33	-0 26
Ohio. . . . .	26	531,907	3 26	-0.26
Pennsylvania. . . . .	27	832,081	3 22	-0.30
Texas. . . . .	28	524,488	3 17	-0 30
Wyoming. . . . .	29	17,100	2.89	-0.43
New Mexico. . . . .	30	37,114	2.86	-0 43
North Dakota. . . . .	31	56,397	2.76	-0.48
New Jersey. . . . .	32	272,324	2 69	-0 52
Delaware. . . . .	33	14,620	2.51	-0 61
Rhode Island. . . . .	34	42,961	2.48	-0 61
Oklahoma. . . . .	35	166,847	2.37	-0 65
Nebraska. . . . .	36	75,949	2 11	-0 78
Florida. . . . .	37	65,545	1 68	-0 95
Alabama. . . . .	38	134,128	1 63	-1.00
North Carolina. . . . .	39	169,457	1.60	-1 00
Nevada. . . . .	40	3,000	1.55	-1.04
Kentucky. . . . .	41	110,619	1.46	-1.04
Vermont. . . . .	42	11,200	1 27	-1.13
Virginia. . . . .	43	89,588	1 24	-1.17
Tennessee. . . . .	44	91,563	1 21	-1.17
Georgia. . . . .	45	103,477	1.16	-1.17
Louisiana. . . . .	46	63,768	1 04	-1.26
Arkansas. . . . .	47	57,100	1 02	-1.26
South Carolina. . . . .	48	34,709	0 58	-1.43

\* Source: Adapted from data reported in U.S. Off. Educ., *Statistics of Public, School, and Society Libraries*, 1929, Bull. 1930, No. 37 (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1931), Table 10, pp. 17-207.

Mean per 10 inhabitants 5-17 years of age (based on means of the 48 states), 3.89; standard deviation, 2.30; U.S. total, 12,780,067; U.S. volumes per 100 inhabitants 5-17 years of age (including District of Columbia), 3.99

poses, because data for many schools were not reported. Much of the development which has taken place in the school library field has occurred since 1929. These facts are supported by data for the year 1934, secured from the reports of state departments of education in twenty-three states. The mean number of volumes in school libraries in 1929 for the same states, was 3.24 per 10 population 5-17 years of age. In 1934, the mean number was 22.45, or nearly seven times as large. When the twenty-three states were ranked according to these two sets of data, the correlation was found to be high, indicating that the states maintained a fairly constant relative standing for the five-year period.

Table 46 and Figures 44 and 45 describe the distribution in 1929 of volumes, per 10 inhabitants 5-17 years of age, in school libraries of this country which had 3,000 volumes, or more.<sup>3</sup> They show that in that year 12,780,067 volumes were available in school libraries. The figures for 1934-35 indicate that, in addition to the growth over a period of five years, inclusion of the smaller libraries materially increased the total volumes, since the number reported is 28,332,750. The figures for 1929 show that, owing largely to the dominance of California, in which school library support of a generous nature is compulsory, the Far West possesses almost twice as many volumes per unit of population as do the other regions. The Northeast, Midwest, and Northwest, all have approximately the same per unit number of volumes. The Southeast, with only about one-seventh as many volumes as the Far West, ranks lowest. California, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin possess the most volumes per unit of population, and South Carolina, Arkansas, and Louisiana, the fewest. The range is from 9.94 to 0.58. The inadequacy of even the larger number becomes instantly apparent if it is remembered that the unit of measurement is the number of volumes per 10 persons 5-17 years of age, and that five volumes per high

<sup>3</sup> Compiled from the U.S. Office of Education, *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*, Bulletin 1930, No. 37 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1931), pp. 17-207, including all libraries classified as being controlled by the school.



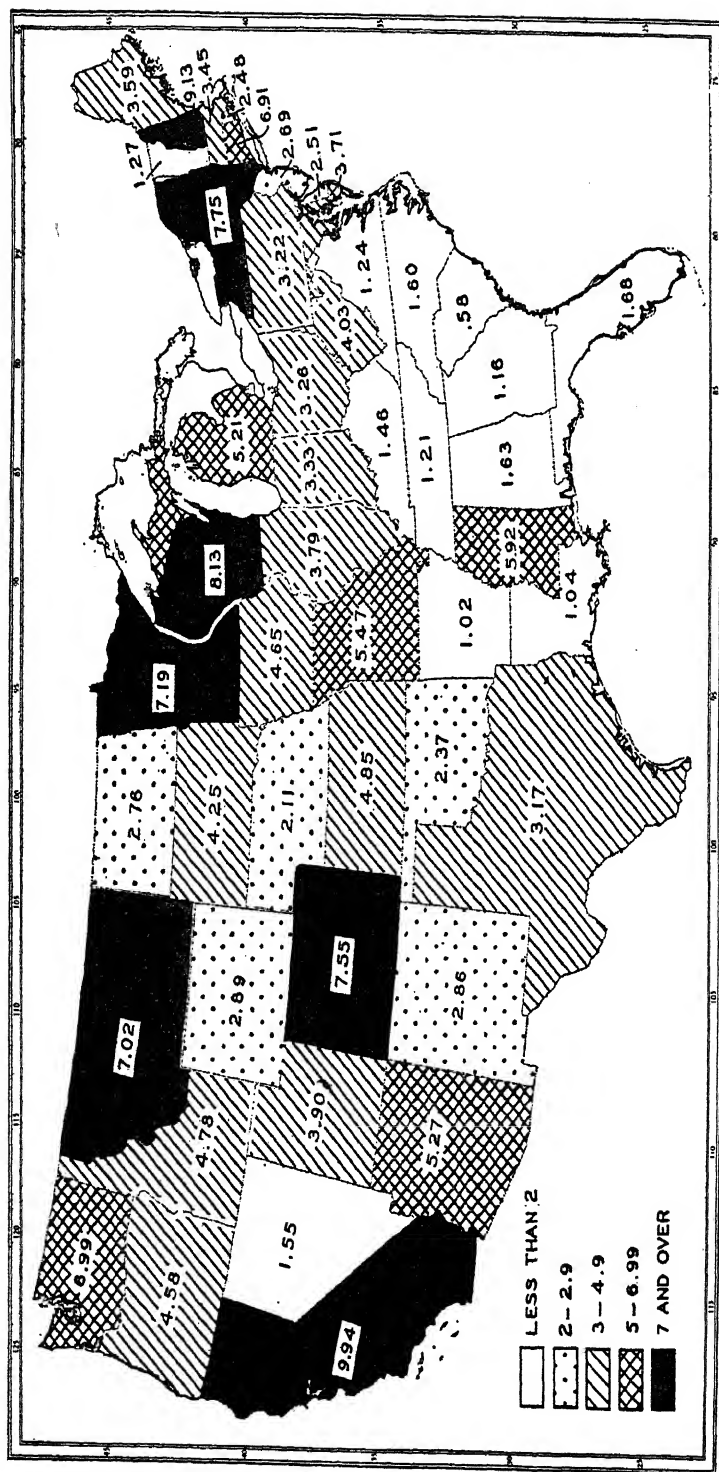


FIG. 44.—Volumes in school libraries of 3,000 volumes, or more, per 10 inhabitants 5-17 years of age, 1929. Source: Same as for Table 46. (Goode Base Map No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

school student enrolled are required in certain schools having membership in the Southern Association.<sup>4</sup>

Some states which rank high in public library development rank low in school library resources. Others which rank high in school library development rank low in public library resources. This relationship is manifest in Table 47.

#### SCHOOL LIBRARY EXPENDITURES

The test of school library development rests, in the final analysis, upon regular expenditures for maintenance, salaries, and books. Unfortunately, the data are neither explicit nor



FIG. 45.—Regional summary of volumes in school libraries of 3,000 volumes, or more, per 10 inhabitants 5-17 years of age, 1929.

exact on this point. Not only do the limitations previously noted operate here but the inclusion of data on the salaries of school librarians and on book purchases adds to the uncertainties. Funds for such salaries and purchases frequently are not budgeted separately, and consequently the information that is available is far from satisfactory. Even in New York, where there has been a long-established policy of state aid for school libraries and state supervision of such libraries, data on the amount of money from state funds spent on books is not available after 1929. The report of the Library Extension Division for that year indicates that the apportionment act which extended more liberal state aid to rural schools also abolished the

<sup>4</sup> Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, *Proceedings of the Thirty-ninth Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, Georgia, December 6-7, 1934, pp. 366-68.

special grant for library books.<sup>5</sup> The report for 1931 specified that because of this change in administrative policy there is no complete report on book purchases, and that only 950 lists of books were sent to the department for approval, in comparison with the 3,970 lists sent during 1927-28.<sup>6</sup>

TABLE 47\*

COMPARISON OF STATES RELATED INVERSELY AS TO SCHOOL LIBRARY RESOURCES, 1929, AND TO PUBLIC LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT, 1934

STATE	SCHOOL LIBRARY RESOURCES		PUBLIC LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT		DIFFERENCE	
	Rank	Standard Score	Rank	Standard Score	Rank	Standard Score
States Ranking High in School Library Resources and Low in Public Library Development						
Mississippi .. . . .	10	0.87	46	-1.28	36	2.15
Colorado .. . . .	5	1.60	22	0.02	17	1.58
Montana .. . . .	7	1.34	25	-0.18	18	1.52
West Virginia .. . . .	19	0.04	47	-1.39	28	1.43
Minnesota .. . . .	6	1.43	21	0.15	15	1.28
Arizona .. . . .	12	0.61	29	-0.50	17	1.11
Idaho .. . . .	15	0.39	32	-0.64	17	1.03
States Ranking Low in School Library Resources and High in Public Library Development						
Vermont. .. . . .	42	-1.13	5	1.52	37	2.65
Massachusetts .. . . .	24	-0.22	1	2.31	23	2.53
Rhode Island .. . . .	34	-0.61	6	1.14	28	1.75
Nevada .. . . .	40	-1.04	15	0.63	25	1.67
Wyoming .. . . .	29	-0.43	7	1.11	22	1.54
New Jersey .. . . .	32	-0.52	9	0.96	23	1.48
Delaware .. . . .	33	-0.61	13	0.71	20	1.32

\*Source: Tables 46 and 51.

School library support, however, is extremely important, and in most states definite legislation or rules adopted by state de-

<sup>5</sup> New York State Education Department, "Library Extension Division," The University of the State of New York, State Education Department, *Annual Report for the School Year Ending July 21, 1929* (Albany: University of the State of New York, 1930), p. 303.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 1931, p. 270.

partments of education bear distinctly upon it. Manuals for the successful use of the libraries are published, as well as approved graded lists from which the schools are expected to make selections. California requires all schools in unincorporated areas to set aside a minimum of \$25 per teacher as a fund for the purchase of library materials. In city schools in California the minimum is \$0.40 per pupil, although the amount is frequently higher, particularly in high schools. Permission is also given school authorities to contract with public and county libraries for school library service, and 2,387 school districts have joined county library systems under these provisions.<sup>7</sup> The fact that this privilege has been largely taken advantage of in California has greatly contributed to the success of both school and county libraries. Other states require schools to budget a certain amount per school, teacher, or number of pupils for library purposes, and in twenty-three states and the District of Columbia school librarians are certificated.<sup>8</sup> A number of states also provide library funds from state sources, in some instances requiring the local district or county to match such appropriations. At the present time a nation-wide study of high school standards is being carried on by a committee of the various accrediting agencies of the nation,<sup>9</sup> and special consideration is being given to the formulation of standards which will result in the regular and adequate support of library service in member-schools. These will doubtless take the place of the present standards of the different accrediting associations, some of which require a minimum expenditure for books of \$1 per high school pupil.<sup>10</sup>

Variations in provisions for the schools are due in part to the fact that, while provision for schools is mandatory, that for school libraries is largely permissive. One writer has pointed out that, of the 39 states replying to an inquiry which he made,

<sup>7</sup> "List of Counties Having County Free Libraries," *News Notes of California Libraries*, XXXI (1936), 136.

<sup>8</sup> Data from the files of the American Library Association, August, 1937.

<sup>9</sup> Cooperative Study of Secondary School Standards [*Evaluative criteria*], W. C. Eells, Coordinator (Washington: Cooperative Study of School Standards [1936]).

<sup>10</sup> Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, *op. cit.*

23 have some legal provision for support of school libraries, while 16 have none. The provisions for the 23 states are more permissive than mandatory.<sup>11</sup>

A further difficulty in the support of school libraries is due to the division of responsibility between three governmental agencies: local, county, and state. The need of state aid in extending school library service is emphasized by the New York State Department of Education in its *Report* for 1935, which directs attention to the fact that while the cost of school library support is only \$1 per resident (or \$2.50 to \$3 per borrower), as contrasted with the general school expense of \$130 per pupil, yet it has been impossible to get the needed appropriations from counties or towns.<sup>12</sup>

Another indication of the lack of proper provision for the school library is found in a consideration of the relation of the amount budgeted for the use of the library to the amount of the total school budget in some of the larger senior and junior high schools. For the sixteen large cities which reported both their total school and their school library expenditures to the American Library Association in 1935, the per cent which total school library expenditure constituted of the total educational expenditure ranged from 0.8 for Baltimore, Maryland, to 3.5 for Spokane, Washington. The average per cent for the sixteen cities was 1.4.<sup>13</sup>

Further evidence of the lack of sufficient budgetary provision for library purposes is found in the fact that where such items were included in school budgets they were frequently the most heavily cut during the depression. As Mr. Purdy showed in his study of the school libraries of the metropolitan area of Chicago, the reduction in average expenditure per pupil for books, period-

<sup>11</sup> R. S. Ihlenfeldt, "Financial Support of School Libraries," National Education Association, Department of Rural Education, *Bulletin* (February, 1926), pp. 35-37.

<sup>12</sup> New York State Education Department, "Library Extension Division," The University of the State of New York, State Education Department, *Annual Report for the School Year Ending June 30, 1935* (Albany: University of the State of New York, 1937), p. 314.

<sup>13</sup> Data computed from "Junior and Senior High School Library General and Salary Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXIX (1935), 875.

icals, and bindings in 31 high schools was from \$1.04 in 1929-30 to \$0.49 in 1933-34, the average for the five-year period being \$0.74. Similar average expenditures for 41 elementary schools dropped from \$0.71 in 1929-30 to \$0.29 in 1933-34, the average for the five-year period being \$0.52.<sup>14</sup> The inadequacy of support is further evidenced by data from the study of rural schools by Miss Lathrop,<sup>15</sup> and of rural school libraries by the Department of Rural Education of the National Education Association, which shows that in many instances the taxing units are not large enough to produce sufficient revenue to support schools adequately, or that due provision for support has not been made.<sup>16</sup>

A recent survey of the situation in New York City bears additional testimony to the inadequacy of school library service. Through special questionnaires sent out in 1934 the state department has accumulated more extensive material than was previously available on the school libraries of the state. The data for New York City has been summarized in the 1935 *Report*, with some preliminary indications for the state as a whole. For the city high schools six evidences of the inadequacy of service are mentioned, while ten are given for the junior high schools. For the state as a whole, four needs are emphasized: (1) more time to be devoted to library service by trained librarians; (2) library service in elementary schools to be strengthened and increased; (3) libraries to be organized more completely and more adequate records to be kept; and (4) funds for books to be increased radically.<sup>17</sup>

Some of the reasons why school library facilities are so inade-

<sup>14</sup> Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, "A Preliminary Report on the Investigation of School Library Resources, Administration and Use in the Metropolitan Area of Chicago" (Unpublished report, September 20, 1934), p. 38.

<sup>15</sup> E. A. Lathrop, *A Study of Rural School Library Practices and Services* (Chicago: U.S. Office of Education, Carnegie Corporation of New York, and the American Library Association, 1934), p. 89.

<sup>16</sup> "Rural School Libraries," [Yearbook], National Education Association, Department of Rural Education, *Bulletin* (February, 1936).

<sup>17</sup> New York State Education Department, "Library Extension Division" (1935), pp. 323-24.

quate and uneven are: (1) state legislation or regulations promulgated by state departments of education have frequently not included provisions requiring the inclusion of library support in the school budget; and (2) school superintendents, principals, and school boards have often failed to think of library service as essential to school efficiency. Lack of co-operation between schools and public libraries in providing service has also frequently contributed to the unsatisfactory situation.

#### USE OF THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

Records of school library circulation, like records of college and university library circulation, are generally maintained. But this is usually done in such a diverse manner as to have slight significance in a comparative study of library resources and use. Where the library is operated by the public library of the city or county, records of circulation may be kept by the library rather than by the school. If the library is operated by the school, records of books taken out may be kept, but generally no records are made of books taken from the shelves and consulted in the reading room. Student use of the public library, however, constitutes a fairly large per cent of total library use. The Wilson and Wight study found that student use constituted 65 per cent of the total in nine Southern counties;<sup>18</sup> Miss Hunt found that 53 per cent of the visitors to the public library in Racine, Wisconsin, were students;<sup>19</sup> and Mr. Haygood and Mr. Ellsworth found the per cents in New York City,<sup>20</sup> South Chicago, and St. Louis studies<sup>21</sup> to be, respectively, 38.2, 49.1, and 50.0 per cent.

From such evidence as is available, however, it is very ap-

<sup>18</sup> L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), p. 101.

<sup>19</sup> M. L. Hunt and others, "A Day's Work of the Racine, Wisconsin, Public Library," *Library Journal*, LIX (1934), 106-10.

<sup>20</sup> W. C. Haygood, "Who Uses the Public Library" (MS in press).

<sup>21</sup> R. E. Ellsworth, "The Distribution of Books and Magazines in Selected Communities" (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1937), p. 14.

parent that school use of the school and public libraries is steadily growing, and that the use of the public library by school students, both in schools which provide their own libraries and in those which do not, constitutes one major service of the public library. This is attested by circulation, not only in juvenile departments but in adult departments as well. The library resources of many schools are so limited that they not only fail to meet the outside reading interests of students but even some of the curricular needs. The checking of schedules prepared by the Cooperative Study of Secondary School Standards, carried on during 1936-37 in 200 high schools, should prove very revealing as to the extent of this use, should lead to a better integration of public and school library facilities, and should establish clearly the proper criteria for measuring the school library's effectiveness in the achievement of the school's educational objectives.

School library service is not alone measured in terms of circulation and of books, although such records form the major data now available for its evaluation. Mr. B. Lamar Johnson investigated the various types of service which these libraries offer, including instruction in library use. He found that comparatively little systematic teaching of library use was provided.<sup>22</sup> Librarians generally assist students in finding materials and give them some type of informal instruction in library use, but the extent of student competence in such use has only recently been investigated. The development of tests as to this competence at three levels, college, high school, and elementary school, and the report on major differences discovered pave the way for more thoroughgoing programs of instruction in this direction.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>22</sup> B. L. Johnson, *The Secondary-School Library*, U.S. Office of Education, Bulletin 1932, No. 17 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1933), pp. 32-51.

<sup>23</sup> Tests on the use of the library were developed by Lulu Ruth Reed in connection with an investigation of differences in student competence to use it. Material on validity and reliability of the tests is presented in her unpublished doctoral dissertation ("A Test of Students' Competence to Use the Library," Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1937), of which an essential portion will appear in the April, 1938, issue of the *Library Quarterly*. The tests (with scoring keys and manuals) are published by the Chicago Planograph Corporation.



Until such time as more complete studies of the use of the library have been made, amount of book stock and expenditures for libraries will remain the chief indications of the adequacy, or inadequacy, of services which the library gives to the schools.

#### SUMMARY

Data bearing upon the school library are far less complete than they should be, if one judges from the increasing importance of the use of library materials in the daily work of the school itself. The most recent information from the Office of Education shows that of 103,081 public elementary and secondary schools reporting in 1934-35, 61,390 made use of library materials supplied either by centralized or classroom libraries. To state this differently, there were 41,691 schools which failed to receive service from libraries. It is noteworthy that of the public elementary and secondary schools, those reporting comprised approximately 50 per cent of all the city and 30 per cent of all the county schools of the nation. It may not be amiss to estimate, on this basis, that between 80,000 and 100,000 schools are not served by centralized or classroom libraries within the school, but are dependent upon public or other libraries, if these are present in the communities in which the schools are located. This, obviously, constitutes a major obstacle to the oncoming generation in preparing itself to meet effectively the problems with which it will be confronted in a highly complex, democratic society.

The data also make clear that specific items for library purposes are frequently not included in school budgets; that state appropriations for school libraries are not nation-wide; that the certification of school librarians obtains in less than one-half of the states; that legislation or regulations issued by state departments of education, looking to the steady improvement of school libraries, have not been developed upon a satisfactory basis; and that public schools and libraries are often not as co-operative as they should be, although both are supported by the public and are engaged in work that is purposefully educational.

In spite of these limitations, however, the advance in the development of public school libraries during the past two decades has been one of the most notable in American education. Elementary and secondary school education has been tremendously enriched by means of library service, where this has been supplied adequately; and one of the most heartening features of present-day library and educational planning is the inclusion of state-wide support for such service. The state of Tennessee, in the report of its Educational Commission in 1934, recommended—though unsuccessfully—an annual appropriation of twenty-five cents per capita for library purposes, including school library service. This was later to be increased to fifty cents per capita. The fund was to be distributed by the State Department of Education.<sup>24</sup> In 1936, Louisiana made \$1,000,000 available for text and other books for public schools.<sup>25</sup> And in 1937 both Tennessee and Georgia appropriated \$100,000 each for school library purposes.<sup>26</sup>

The increasing importance of the school library has also been recognized by library and teacher-training agencies in their preparation of librarians and teachers to administer school collections; and, on account of the rapid development of the adult educational activities of both the library and the school, librarians and teachers, alike, are placing greater emphasis upon the developments of permanent reading interests and habits by school students in order that in their later life they may be equipped to deal realistically with important problems and ideas which appear in print.

<sup>24</sup> Tennessee Educational Commission, *Report*, Part II, "Recommendations Affecting Public Education in Tennessee, 1934" (Jackson, Tenn.: Long-Johnson, 1935), p. 18.

<sup>25</sup> "Louisiana's State Funds in Action" (editorial), *American Library Association, Bulletin*, XXXI (1937), 347.

<sup>26</sup> Correspondence from the School and Children's Division of the American Library Association.

## CHAPTER VII

### SUMMARY OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

VARIATIONS in library development in the United States have been presented in extended detail in chapters i-vi. These variations have been particularly concerned with (1) per cent of the population to whom local public library service is available, (2) number of volumes in different types of libraries, (3) library expenditure, (4) number of volumes circulated, and (5) number of registered library users. The discussion concerning these central themes has involved other related subjects, all of which, when brought together in this chapter, should go far in indicating the pattern, or index, of library development in the nation today.

Before presenting a final statement concerning this pattern, or index, however, four additional variations in library development may be introduced. These are: (1) the distribution of gifts for the erection of libraries by Andrew Carnegie and the Carnegie Corporation of New York, (2) the number of librarians actively carrying on library work in the various states, (3) the distribution of accredited library schools engaged in the professional training of librarians, and (4) the expenditures made by state governments for state libraries, library extension service, and grants-in-aid to libraries.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF CARNEGIE LIBRARY BUILDINGS

In 1924, the Carnegie Corporation of New York published *The American Public Library and the Diffusion of Knowledge*, in which the author set forth what he conceived to be Carnegie's philosophy of libraries and a detailed record of the number and cost of public library buildings provided by him or the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The total number of such buildings erected in the United States between 1896 and 1923 was 1,677,

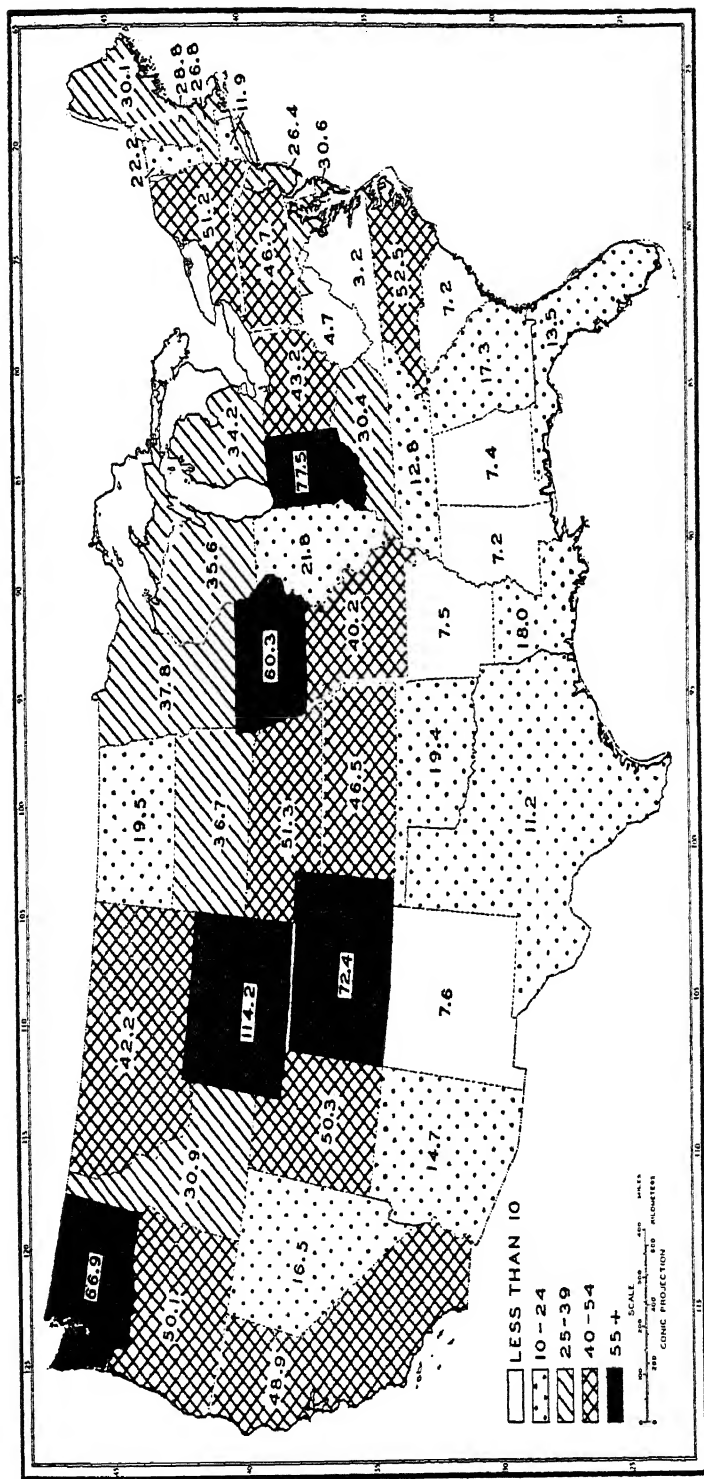


FIG. 46.—Appropriations per 100 population, made by Andrew Carnegie and the Carnegie Corporation of New York for library buildings, 1896-1923. Source: Same as for Table 48. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

The figures in this map are expressed in terms of dollars.

including branch library buildings, grants for their erecting amounting to \$40,908,853.47. They were located in 1,408 communities and were estimated to serve 32,956,500 people, or 31 per cent of the population. Twenty-four hundred and sixty-two communities with 1,000 population, or more, possessed public libraries unaided by Carnegie funds. These served an estimated population of 23,825,500, or 22.5 per cent, and increased the total served to 55,782,000, or 53.5 per cent.<sup>1</sup> The significance of the stimulation of library interest resulting from Carnegie's assistance cannot be estimated. The places where

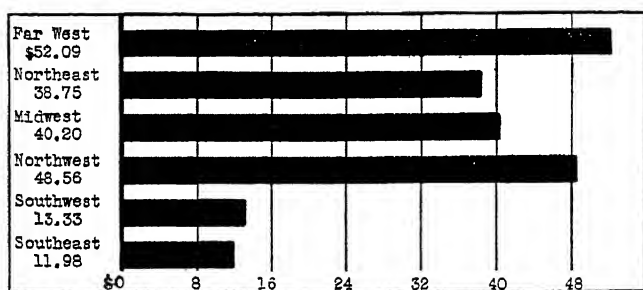


FIG. 47.—Regional summary of appropriations per 100 population, made by Andrew Carnegie and the Carnegie Corporation of New York for library buildings, 1896-1923.

this stimulation was felt and the amount of money appropriated for buildings in the various states are indicated in Table 48 and Figures 46 and 47. The most striking fact revealed by the data, other than the amount and range of assistance, is the departure from the general library pattern which the pattern of assistance presents, particularly in the case of the New England states. Rhode Island and Delaware received no funds whatever, and no New England state was included in the list of the ten states which received the greatest aid. The heavy concentration of aid in the Midwest, the Northwest and the Far West, and the slight concentration in the Southeast and Southwest, due in large measure to lack of ability to meet the requirement to match funds in order to provide a certain per cent of

<sup>1</sup> W. S. Learned, *The American Public Library and the Diffusion of Knowledge* (New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1924).

TABLE 48\*

APPROPRIATIONS PER 100 POPULATION, MADE BY ANDREW CARNEGIE AND THE CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK FOR LIBRARY BUILDINGS, 1896-1923

STATE	RANK	BUILDINGS	APPROPRIATIONS		STANDARD SCORE
			Total	Per 100 Population	
Wyoming...	1	16	\$ 257,500	\$114.2	3.64
Indiana...	2	164	2,508,664	77.5	2.00
Colorado...	3	35	749,943	72.4	1.77
Washington...	4	43	1,046,000	66.9	1.53
Iowa.....	5	101	1,495,706	60.3	1.23
North Carolina...	6	10	166,445	52.5	0.88
Nebraska.....	7	69	706,288	51.3	0.83
New York...	8	106	6,449,200	51.2	0.83
Utah...	9	23	255,470	50.3	0.79
Oregon...	10	31	478,000	50.1	0.78
California...	11	142	2,776,987	48.9	0.72
Pennsylvania...	12	56	4,496,148	46.7	0.63
Kansas...	13	59	874,996	46.5	0.62
Ohio.....	14	105	2,871,483	43.2	0.47
Montana...	15	17	226,700	42.2	0.42
Missouri...	16	33	1,460,143	40.2	0.34
Minnesota...	17	65	969,375	37.8	0.23
South Dakota...	18	25	254,000	36.7	0.18
Wisconsin...	19	63	1,045,511	35.6	0.13
Michigan...	20	61	1,655,950	34.2	0.07
Idaho...	21	10	137,500	30.9	-0.08
Maryland...	22	14	500,000	30.6	-0.09
Kentucky...	23	23	795,300	30.4	-0.10
Maine.....	24	17	238,950	30.1	-0.12
New Hampshire...	25	9	134,000	28.8	-0.17
Massachusetts...	26	43	1,137,500	26.8	-0.26
New Jersey...	27	35	1,066,935	26.4	-0.28
Vermont...	28	4	80,000	22.2	-0.47
Illinois...	29	106	1,661,200	21.8	-0.49
North Dakota...	30	8	132,700	19.5	-0.59
Oklahoma...	31	24	464,500	19.4	-0.59
Louisiana...	32	9	380,000	18.0	-0.66
Georgia...	33	24	503,756	17.3	-0.69
Nevada.....	34	1	15,000	16.5	-0.72
Arizona...	35	4	64,000	14.7	-0.80
Florida...	36	10	198,000	13.5	-0.86
Tennessee...	37	13	335,500	12.8	-0.89
Connecticut.....	38	11	191,900	11.9	-0.92
Texas.....	39	32	649,500	11.2	-0.96
New Mexico...	40	3	32,000	7.6	-1.12
Arkansas...	41	4	138,600	7.5	-1.13
Alabama...	42	14	195,800	7.4	-1.13
Mississippi...	43	11	145,500	7.2	-1.14
South Carolina...	43	14	124,700	7.2	-1.14
West Virginia...	45	3	81,500	4.7	-1.26
Virginia.....	46	3	78,000	3.2	-1.32

\* Source: W. S. Learned, *The American Public Library and the Diffusion of Knowledge* (N.Y.: Harcourt Brace and Co., 1924), pp. facing 72-73.

Mean per 100 population (based on means of 46 states), \$32.7; standard deviation, \$22.4; U.S. total buildings, 1,677; U.S. total appropriations for buildings (including District of Columbia), \$40,908,853; U.S. appropriations per 100 population (including District of Columbia), \$33.6.

There were no appropriations for Delaware or Rhode Island.

the amount of annual maintenance, are likewise notable. No summary of the grants for academic library buildings is given by Mr. Learned, but in a later report, the total amount provided for this purpose by Carnegie, or the Corporation, is placed at \$4,151,048.<sup>2</sup>

Since different communities built buildings of different sizes and costs, the number of buildings given to each state is also indicated in Table 48. The resulting regional differences are approximately the same as those in terms of the amount of money given. The Midwest received the most buildings and the Southwest the fewest. The Northeast received only a few in proportion to the population but it already had buildings, whereas the Southwest and the Southeast did not. The Midwest received more than eleven times as many buildings as did the Southwest, about three times as many as the Far West, and twice as many as the Northwest.

#### NUMBER OF LIBRARIANS PER 100,000 POPULATION

The effectiveness of libraries is largely dependent upon the ability and resourcefulness of their professional staffs. Consequently, the number of librarians engaged in library activities per 100,000 population reflects in a very practical way the character of library service within the population area. In 1929, there were 31,234 librarians engaged in library service of various kinds in the United States. The data in Table 49 and the regional summary (Fig. 49) show the range in number of librarians per 100,000 population in that year.<sup>3</sup> Unfortunately, these data are for 1929. Their inadequacy for the present is clearly indicated by the report, for example, of the Mississippi Library Commission for 1936, in which 151 librarians were listed as being in service on that date,<sup>4</sup> as contrasted with the 74 shown in

<sup>2</sup> R. M. Lester, *The Corporation: A Digest of Its Financial Record, 1911-1936* (New York: Carnegie Corporation of New York, 1936), p. 238.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Office of Education, *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*, Bulletin 1930, No. 37 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1931), p. 8.

<sup>4</sup> "Mississippi State Library Commission," *Library News [Mississippi]*, I (No. 1, July-December, 1936).

TABLE 49\*  
LIBRARIANS PER 100,000 POPULATION, 1929

STATE	RANK	LIBRARIANS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100,000 Population	
California. . . . .	1	3,304	58.2	2.44
Massachusetts . . . . .	2	2,392	56.3	2.31
Rhode Island . . . . .	3	357	51.9	2.00
Vermont . . . . .	4	162	45.1	1.52
New Hampshire.. . . .	5	209	44.9	1.52
Oregon . . . . .	6	418	43.8	1.44
Ohio . . . . .	7	2,731	41.1	1.25
Connecticut . . . . .	8	653	40.6	1.22
Minnesota.. . . .	9	869	33.9	0.75
Michigan..... . . . .	10	1,562	32.3	0.63
Maine..... . . . .	11	254	31.8	0.60
Wyoming. . . . .	12	71	31.5	0.58
Illinois . . . . .	13	2,398	31.4	0.57
Indiana . . . . .	14	997	30.8	0.53
Utah . . . . .	15	154	30.3	0.50
Washington . . . . .	16	469	30.0	0.48
New Jersey . . . . .	17	1,171	28.9	0.40
Colorado..... . . . .	18	294	28.4	0.36
New York . . . . .	18	3,578	28.4	0.36
Montana . . . . .	20	152	28.3	0.35
Wisconsin . . . . .	21	800	27.2	0.28
Iowa . . . . .	22	573	23.2	0.00
Maryland . . . . .	23	372	22.8	-0.03
Missouri..... . . . .	24	775	21.4	-0.13
Nevada..... . . . .	25	19	20.9	-0.16
Kansas..... . . . .	26	385	20.5	-0.19
South Dakota..... . . . .	27	140	20.2	-0.21
Idaho..... . . . .	28	76	17.1	-0.43
Delaware. . . . .	29	40	16.8	-0.45
Nebraska..... . . . .	30	206	14.9	-0.57
Pennsylvania . . . . .	30	1,443	14.9	-0.57
Arizona..... . . . .	32	59	13.5	-0.67
Oklahoma . . . . .	33	300	12.5	-0.74
North Dakota . . . . .	34	83	12.2	-0.77
Virginia..... . . . .	35	263	10.9	-0.86
New Mexico..... . . . .	36	43	10.2	-0.91
Kentucky..... . . . .	37	263	10.2	-0.92
Tennessee..... . . . .	38	265	10.1	-0.92
Florida..... . . . .	39	137	9.3	-0.97
North Carolina . . . . .	40	292	9.2	-0.97
Texas..... . . . .	41	471	8.1	-1.05
West Virginia.. . . .	42	131	7.6	-1.09
Louisiana. . . . .	43	146	6.9	-1.13
Georgia..... . . . .	44	181	6.2	-1.18
Alabama..... . . . .	45	162	6.1	-1.19
South Carolina . . . . .	46	84	4.8	-1.28
Arkansas . . . . .	47	70	3.8	-1.35
Mississippi..... . . . .	48	74	3.7	-1.36

\* Source. U. S. Off. Educ., *Statistics of Public, School, and Society Libraries, 1929*, Bull. 1930, No. 37 (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1931), p. 8.  
Mean per 100,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 23.2, standard deviation, 14.34; U. S. total, 31,234, U. S. librarians per 100,000 population (including District of Columbia), 25.4.



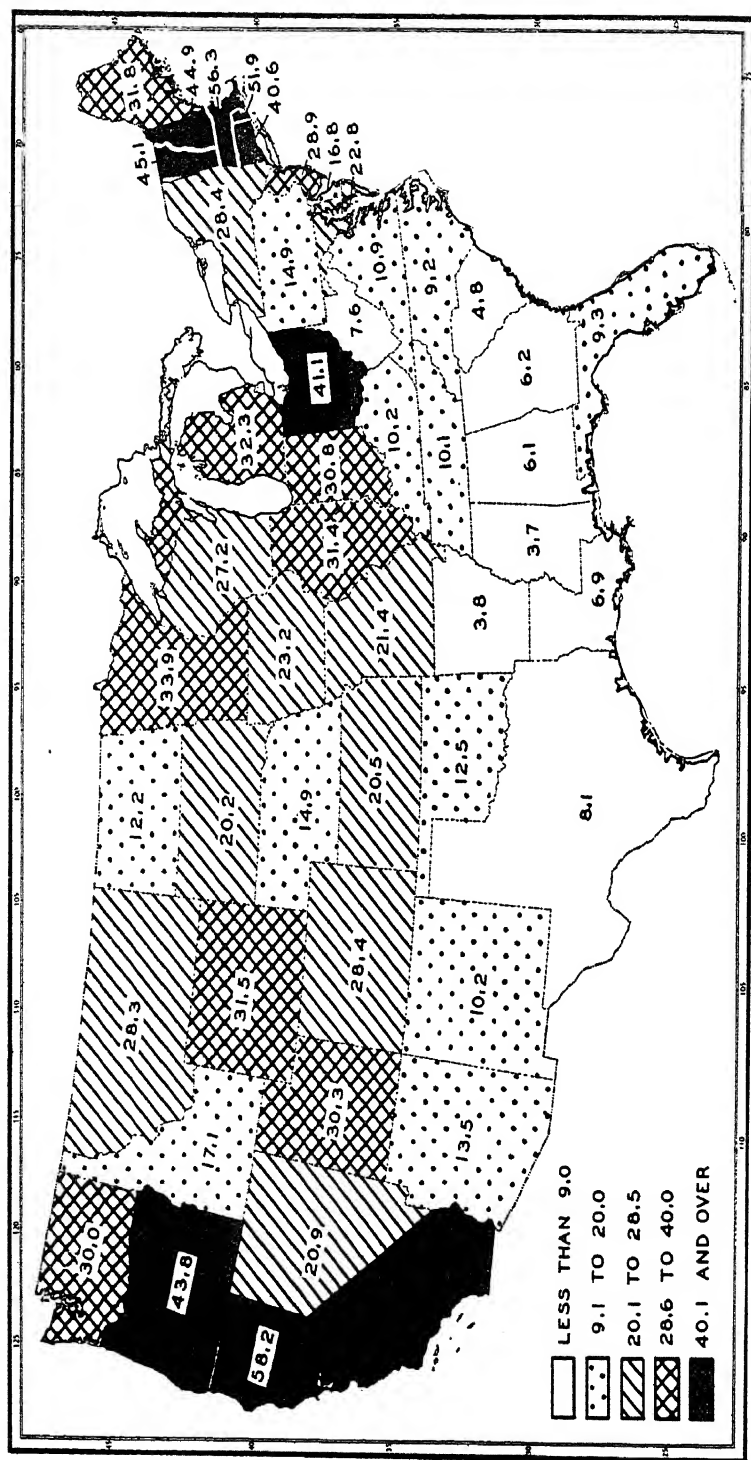


FIG. 48.—Librarians per 100,000 population, 1929. Source: Same as for Table 49. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

the table. Justification for their use is to be found in that no later data, by states, are available, and they fill out the pattern which data for other phases of library development in 1929, as collected on a nation-wide basis by the U.S. Office of Education, have revealed.

Data are available, however, which relate to the major professional library associations and organizations in the United States and Canada. The American Library Association had 13,782 members in the forty-eight states and the District of Columbia in 1937. Members from Canada and abroad increased the total to 14,204. This organization, founded in 1876,

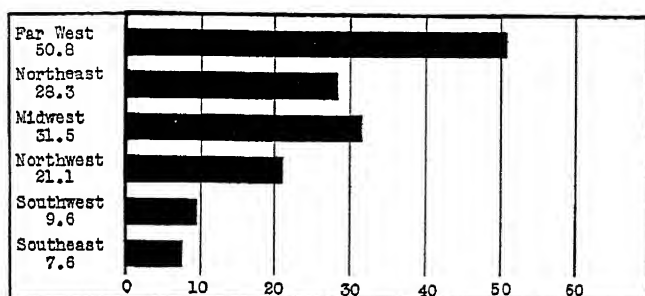


FIG. 49.—Regional summary of librarians per 100,000 population, 1929

has an endowment of \$2,194,645.39, maintains extensive headquarters in Chicago, and engages in an active advisory and publishing program. It is divided into various sections and round tables, has numerous committees and boards, and is directly affiliated with the American Association of Law Libraries, the Association of Research Libraries, League of Library Commissions, the National Association of State Libraries, and the Special Libraries Association. Other national library associations include the American Library Institute, the American Merchant Marine Library Association, the Association of American Library Schools, the Bibliographical Society of America, the Catholic Library Association, the Medical Library Association, and the Music Library Association. Associations of librarians are also to be found in several major regions of the nation, in forty-seven states, in the District of Columbia, and in many

cities. State trustees' organizations and state-wide citizen library groups are to be found in many states. All these agencies are concerned with the professional aspects of librarianship and with the promotion and improvement of library service throughout the nation.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF LIBRARY SCHOOLS

The first school in the United States for the professional training of librarians was established at Columbia College (now University) in 1887. In 1915 the number of schools had grown to thirteen, of which ten were members of the Association of American Library Schools. The number of schools officially accredited by the American Library Association in 1936 was twenty-six. In addition to these accredited schools, there are other unaccredited schools, and from seventy-five to one hundred institutions, accredited and unaccredited, offer courses in library science in summer sessions.

Naturally, the effectiveness of the library program of a state or region is dependent in considerable measure upon the number of effectively trained men and women who enter the profession. Table 50 shows the distribution of the accredited schools and the number of prospective librarians enrolled during the year 1935-36. A number of schools which were formerly accredited by the American Library Association, or had membership in the Association of American Library Schools, but which have been transferred to other institutions, or discontinued, should be mentioned in addition to those listed in Table 50, as they contributed greatly to the development of library service in their regions and throughout the nation. These were the New York State (1887-1926), and New York Public Library schools (1911-26), now merged in the Columbia University School of Library Service; the Library School of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta (1905-30), now transferred to Emory University; the Library School of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (1901-16), now a part of the Carnegie Institute of Technology; the library schools of the St. Louis (1917-32) and

TABLE 50\*  
ACCREDITED LIBRARY SCHOOLS, 1936

SCHOOLS BY REGION WITH DATE OF FOUNDING	TYPE†	ENROLMENT (NOV. 1, 1935)				GRADU- ATES
		First Year		Advanced		
		Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	
<i>Northeast:</i>						
Albany, 1926	III	32	44	..	..	193
Columbia, 1887	I	70	97	11	19	1,417
Drexel, 1892..	II	29	....	..	..	392
New Jersey, 1927	III	16	....	..	..	88
Pittsburgh, 1901	II	20	3	..	..	909
Pratt, 1890..	III	28	.....	..	..	1,018
Simmons, 1902	II, III	73	.....	..	..	1,229
Syracuse, 1908. . . . .	II	11	65	..	..	661
<i>Midwest:</i>						
Chicago, 1928 ..	I	.....	.....	23	1	31
Illinois, 1893.	I	55	12	2	24	1,201
Michigan, 1926 . . .	I	28	10	6	13	382
Minnesota, 1928 . .	III	21	30	..	..	380
St. Catherine, 1929. .	III	11	2	.....	.....	73
Western Reserve, 1904	II	45	20	5	6	1,230
Wisconsin, 1906... .	III	40	....	..	..	944
<i>Southeast:</i>						
Emory, 1905 . . . . .	II	42	.....	..	..	499
Hampton (Negro), 1925	II	14	.....	..	..	111
Louisiana, 1931. . .	II	21	1	..	..	81
North Carolina, 1931	II, III	28	6	..	..	82
Peabody, 1928 . . . .	II	34	3	..	..	207
<i>Northwest:</i>						
Denver, 1931. . . . .	III	27	14	..	..	88
Emporia, 1928. . . . .	III	7	.....	..	..	67
<i>Southwest:</i>						
Oklahoma, 1929.... . .	III	28	3	.....	..	142
<i>Far West:</i>						
California, 1919.... .	I	51	3	3	7	574
Washington, 1911 . . .	II	31	6	.....	.....	512
<i>Canada:</i>						
McGill, 1927 . . . . .	II	18	1	.....	.....	115
Total..... . . . .		.....	.....	..	.....	16,950

\* Source. "Accredited Library Schools," A L.A., *Bull.*, XXX (1936), 327.

† Type I: comprises library schools which require at least a Bachelor's degree for admission to the first full academic year of library science, and/or which give advanced professional training beyond the first year.

Type II. comprises library schools which give only the first full academic year of library science, and require four years of appropriate college work for admission.

Type III. comprises library schools which give only the first full academic year of library science, and do not require four years of college work for admission.

Los Angeles (1914-32) public libraries, discontinued; the Department of Library Science of the North Carolina College for Women (1928-33), now merged with the School of Library Science of the University of North Carolina; and the Department of Library Science of the University of Texas (1919-25), discontinued.

#### STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES FOR LIBRARY PURPOSES

Expenditures for certain library purposes have long been considered necessary charges against state governments. Maintenance of state libraries has been the oldest of these, the first state libraries of Pennsylvania and New Jersey having been established in 1796. The state libraries of Ohio and New York were established in 1817 and 1818, respectively, and since then, and comparatively early in the existence of each of the forty-eight states, some sort of provision has been made for the maintenance of library service to state officers and legislators. Law and legislative reference libraries, state archives and historical commissions, state library commissions or divisions of the state department of education, or other departments charged with the duty of library promotion have long been regularly supported by state governments. The total spent for these purposes and for grants-in-aid to public and school libraries in 1931 (the latest year for which detailed information is given) was \$2,441,974, or two cents per capita for the nation. The range was from eleven cents per capita in Connecticut (\$171,502) to less than one-half of one cent (\$2,000) in New Mexico. The highest total for any state was \$278,514 for New York, or two cents per capita.<sup>5</sup> While the actual per capita expenditure has increased from one cent in 1915 to two cents in 1931, the total per cent of all expenditures for state government which this expenditure constitutes has dropped in the same period from four-tenths of one per cent in 1915 to two-tenths of one per cent in 1931.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Financial Statistics of States, 1931* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1933), pp. 24, 90.

In the promotion of public library service, however, the library commission or special division of the state department of education, or state library has been the state agency which has been specifically charged with this activity. Such organizations exist in forty-four states. Forty of them are maintained by regular state appropriations.<sup>6</sup> Their principal functions have been: (1) to develop effective state-wide public library service through the formulation of legislation, the promotion of city, county, district or regional libraries, the administration of grants-in-aid to libraries, the provision of an advisory service to libraries; (2) to promote effective state-wide school library service; (3) to develop a high quality of library personnel through the training, certification, and placement of librarians; (4) to provide direct library service to individuals, groups, and schools; (5) to supply supplementary service to libraries; (6) to maintain a state reference and lending library for specialized service to government officials, the state legislature, the supreme court, and other governmental departments; (7) to encourage adequate library service in state institutions for dependents and delinquents; (8) to collect statistics and other data on the status of libraries; (9) to co-ordinate the library services of the state, and (10) to co-operate with the library agencies of other states and national library agencies.

Legislation authorizing grants-in-aid to public libraries (school district libraries) was first passed by New York in 1835, and actual provision was made for them through an appropriation of \$55,000 in 1838.<sup>7</sup> The first library commission, however, set up to promote public library service and to administer restricted grants-in-aid for this purpose, was established in 1890 in Massachusetts. Since then, this function of government has been provided for in forty-four states, and grants-in-aid, either in the form of direct subsidies or grants of books, have been available to libraries in a number of states. In 1931, Pennsyl-

<sup>6</sup> American Library Association, Library Extension Board, "The State Library Agency: Its Function and Organization" (Mimeographed; Chicago: American Library Association, 1937).

<sup>7</sup> *Laws of the State of New York, 1835; 1838* (Albany: Printed by E. Crosswell, Printer to the State, 1835; 1838), chap. 80; chap. 237, sec. 4.

vania appropriated \$20,000 for aid to county libraries, and in the biennium 1935-37, Illinois appropriated \$600,000 as an emergency fund to restock depleted book collections, and Ohio appropriated \$100,000 for similar purposes and to extend library service to areas that formerly had been without it.<sup>8</sup> For the biennium 1937-39, appropriations for state library extension agencies were reported as follows in the early part of 1937: Arkansas, \$100,000; Georgia, \$35,000; Kansas, \$18,000; Missouri, \$28,570; Nebraska, \$40,000; New Mexico, \$14,000; North Carolina, \$40,545; North Dakota, \$19,150; Oregon, \$105,715; Vermont, \$25,000; and Washington, \$35,900. A grant-in-aid of \$150,000 for this biennium was made for libraries in Ohio, and of \$500,000 annually in Michigan.<sup>9</sup> This grant marks the beginning of a continuing appropriation for library purposes. Legislation was pending in other states, and state library associations were actively engaged in promoting its enactment.

#### INDICES OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of Part I of this publication has been to show the status of library development in the different states and regions of the United States. Chapters i-vi have demonstrated that although there is a strong tendency for the status of a given state or region to be consistent with respect to the various data which have been discussed, the extent of this correlation is hardly sufficient to justify the use of any one set of data as a general index for the status of library facilities for the nation as a whole. Each map presented up to this point must be considered, consequently, rather as representative of one phase of library development. The regional summaries appear somewhat more consistent; yet even they, taken singly, are not as representative of the whole as they should be. It has been necessary, therefore, to develop a combined index, or indices, which

<sup>8</sup> American Library Association, Public Library Division, "State Grants to Libraries" (Mimeographed; Chicago: American Library Association, 1937), p. 14.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.* (Supplementary sheets).

TABLE 51\*  
INDEX OF PUBLIC LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT, 1934

STATE	RANK	STANDARD SCORES				INDEX OF PUBLIC LIBRARY DEVELOP- MENT
		Per Cent of Population Served	Per Capita			
			Circula- tion	Expendi- ture	Volumes	
Massachusetts. ....	1	1 60	1 87	3 27	1.82	2.31
New Hampshire. . . .	2	1.58	1.63	1.24	3 57	2.16
California . . . . .	3	1 52	2 48	1 96	1.69	2.06
Connecticut. . . . .	4	1 56	1 39	1 84	1 01	1.56
Vermont . . . . .	5	1 32	1 20	0 44	2 69	1.52
Rhode Island . . . .	6	1 44	0 63	1.20	0 96	1 14
Wyoming. ....	7	1.44	1 52	0 65	0 52	1.11
Ohio . . . . .	8	1.32	0 65	1.58	0 07	0.98
New Jersey. . . . .	9	1.40	0.82	1.20	0 16	0 96
Oregon. ....	10	0 43	1.45	1.07	0 27	0.90
New York . . . . .	11	1.09	0.36	1.33	0 16	0 80
Indiana. ....	12	0 55	1.28	0.52	0 49	0 77
Delaware. ....	13	1.60	0.36	0.52	0 15	0 71
Maine. ....	14	0.58	0 55	-0.24	1.62	0 68
Nevada . . . . .	15	0.31	0.04	0.35	1 62	0.63
Wisconsin . . . . .	16	0 43	1 04	0 57	0 12	0 58
Washington. ....	17	0.00	1 46	0 48	-0 03	0 52
Illinois. ....	18	0 62	0.26	0 78	-0 07	0 43
Michigan . . . . .	19	0.66	0 37	0 31	0 03	0 37
Utah . . . . .	20	0 31	0.31	0 02	-0.04	0 16
Minnesota. . . . .	21	0 04	0.23	0 35	-0 08	0 15
Colorado . . . . .	22	-0 12	0.14	0.02	0.03	0 02
Iowa. ....	23	-0 43	0 48	0.20	-0.11	-0 01
Maryland . . . . .	24	0.82	-0 63	-0 15	-0.45	-0 11
Montana. . . . .	25	-0 31	-0.17	-0.36	0.16	-0 18
Nebraska. ....	26	-0.35	-0 09	-0.36	-0.05	-0 23
Missouri. ....	27	-0 35	-0 33	-0.28	-0.40	-0.37
Pennsylvania . . . .	28	-0 15	-0 55	-0 19	-0.56	-0 39
Arizona. ....	29	0.20	-0.49	-0.99	-0.55	-0.50
Kansas . . . . .	30	-0.47	-0 43	-0.49	-0.49	-0 51
South Dakota. ....	31	-1.09	-0 37	-0 40	-0 40	-0.60
Idaho. ....	32	-1.05	-0 35	-0.53	-0.41	-0.64
Oklahoma. ....	33	-0 22	-0 54	-0.87	-0.76	-0.81
Tennessee. ....	34	-0.66	-0 80	-0 79	-0.80	-0 82
Florida. ....	34	-0.74	-0 83	-0.74	-0 73	-0.82
Virginia. ....	36	-1.01	-1 04	-0 96	-0.29	-0.90
Texas . . . . .	37	-0.93	-0 91	-0 87	-0.88	-0 97
North Carolina . . . .	37	-0.54	-1.10	-1.04	-0 92	-0.97
Kentucky. ....	39	-0.85	-1.09	-0.87	-0 85	-0 99
South Carolina. . . .	40	-0.74	-1.27	-0.87	-1 02	-1 06
Louisiana. ....	41	-0 82	-1 12	-1 04	-0 93	-1.06
New Mexico. ....	42	-1.01	-1.09	-1 08	-0 76	-1 07
North Dakota . . . .	43	-1 55	-0.89	-0 87	-0.79	-1 11
Alabama. ....	44	-1 05	-1.16	-1.04	-0 97	-1 14
Georgia. ....	44	-1.17	-1.14	-1.00	-0.93	-1.14
Mississippi. ....	46	-1.09	-1.39	-1.21	-1.05	-1.28
West Virginia. ....	47	-1 83	-1.26	-1.04	-1.01	-1.39
Arkansas. ....	48	-1 71	-1 38	-1 21	-1.05	-1.45

\* Source: Compiled from standard scores of Table 2 (Per cent of population of each state residing in local public library districts), 19 (Per capita expenditure for public libraries), 30 (Per capita circulation of public libraries), and 9 (Volumes per capita in public libraries).



will more nearly represent the true state of library development than could any one set of data. In the remaining pages of this chapter indices are presented which gather together the more significant factors considered in previous chapters and fix, fairly conclusively, the pattern of library development in America today.

To this end, two such indices of library development have been computed. The first is based upon statistics published by the American Library Association in 1935, and relates to public library development only.<sup>10</sup> The other is based upon data published by the U.S. Office of Education in 1931, and concerns libraries in general, including public libraries, for the year 1929.<sup>11</sup> These indices are presented in tables, maps, and regional summaries. In later chapters where references are made to the index of library development, they refer to the index of public libraries for 1934.

Table 51 and Figures 50 and 51 relate to public libraries only. They are based on the standard scores of each state with respect to (1) per cent of population served, (2) per capita circulation, (3) per capita expenditure, and (4) volumes per capita. The final column in Table 51 is an adjusted<sup>12</sup> average of the preceding four items and may be considered the unweighted index of library development combining the four separate factors. These four have been used because, in an extensive study of them and of other factors entering into library development,<sup>13</sup> they were found to be the most significant—per capita expenditure being, perhaps, primarily so.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>10</sup> "Public Library Statistics," American Library Association, *Bulletin*, XXIX (1935), 252-55.

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Office of Education, *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*, pp. 1-365.

<sup>12</sup> The adjusted average in this instance is the actual average of the four standard scores converted into one standard score.

<sup>13</sup> G. F. Purdy, "Public Library Service in the Middle West" (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1936).

<sup>14</sup> The degree of consistency in the four sets of data may readily be seen from the table. Alabama affords an excellent example, Connecticut, likewise.

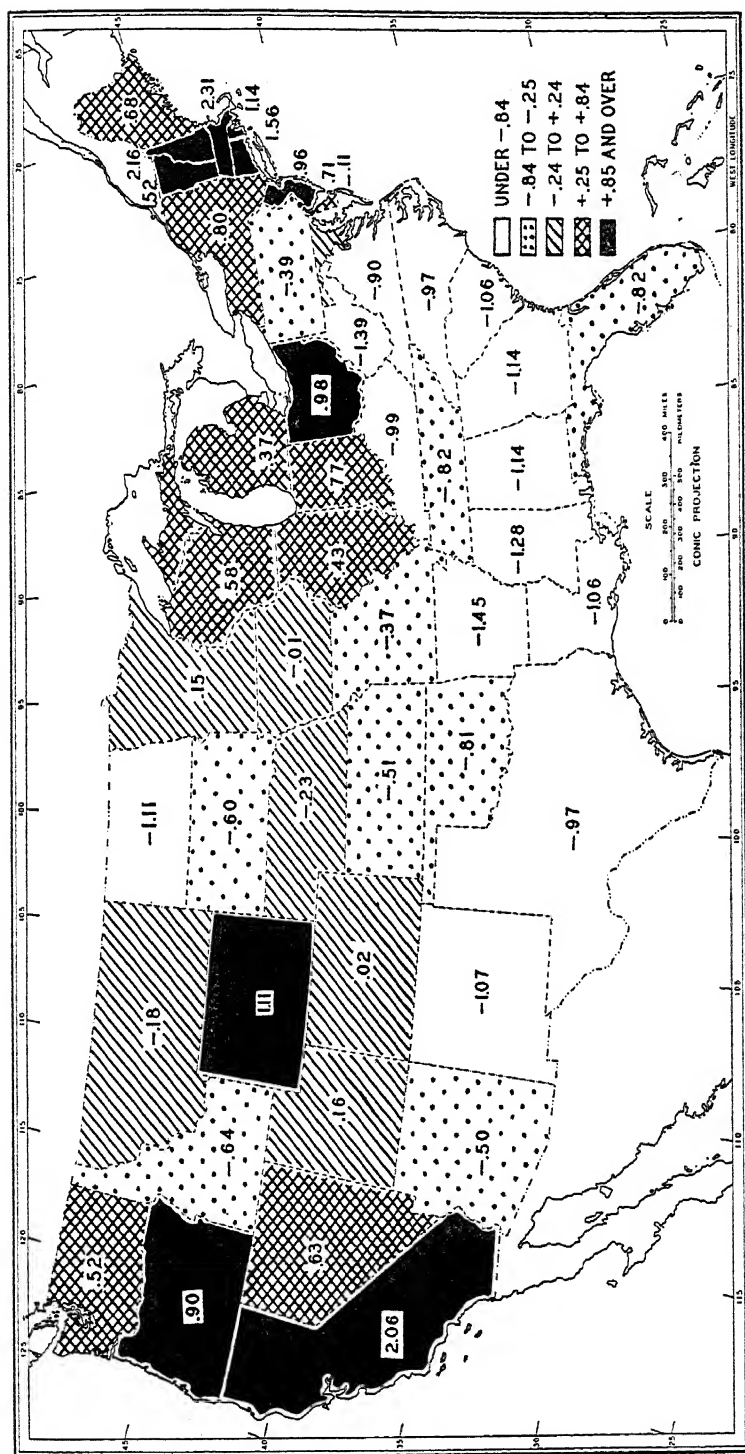


FIG. 50.—Index of public library development, 1934. Source: Same as for Table 51. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

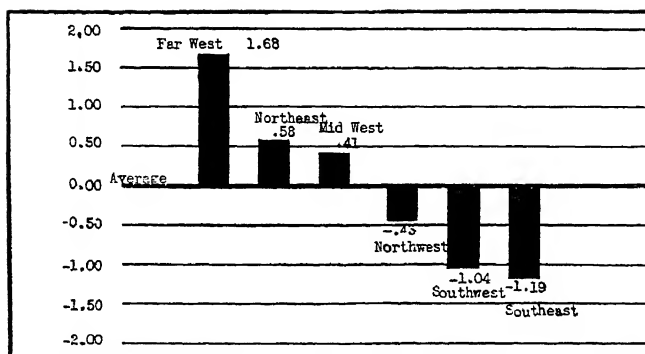


FIG. 51.—Regional summary of index of public library development, 1934

TABLE 52\*

INDEX OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT, 1929

State	Rank	Standard Score	State	Rank	Standard Score
California . . . . .	1	2 31	Kansas . . . . .	25	-0 19
New Hampshire . . .	2	2 29	Missouri . . . . .	26	-0 21
Massachusetts . . .	3	1 86	Arizona . . . . .	27	-0 24
Connecticut . . . .	4	1 66	Maryland . . . . .	28	-0 26
Rhode Island . . . .	5	1 59	South Dakota . . .	29	-0 43
Oregon . . . . .	6	1 17	Nebraska . . . . .	30	-0 46
Vermont . . . . .	7	0 98	Idaho . . . . .	31	-0 56
New York . . . . .	8	0 92	Oklahoma . . . . .	32	-0 60
Indiana . . . . .	9	0 90	Pennsylvania . . .	32	-0 60
Ohio . . . . .	10	0 79	North Dakota . . .	34	-0 68
Minnesota . . . . .	11	0 76	Texas . . . . .	35	-0 93
Wyoming . . . . .	12	0 75	Florida . . . . .	36	-0 95
Washington . . . .	13	0 68	North Carolina . .	36	-0 95
Colorado . . . . .	14	0 51	New Mexico . . . .	38	-0 96
Wisconsin . . . . .	15	0 49	Tennessee . . . . .	39	-0 97
New Jersey . . . . .	16	0 48	Virginia . . . . .	40	-0 99
Illinois . . . . .	17	0 47	West Virginia . . .	41	-1 04
Utah . . . . .	18	0 41	Kentucky . . . . .	42	-1 17
Maine . . . . .	19	0 39	Louisiana . . . . .	43	-1 22
Nevada . . . . .	20	0 35	Georgia . . . . .	44	-1 25
Michigan . . . . .	21	0 27	Alabama . . . . .	45	-1 29
Iowa . . . . .	22	0 15	Arkansas . . . . .	46	-1 42
Montana . . . . .	22	0 15	South Carolina . .	46	-1 42
Delaware . . . . .	24	-0 11	Mississippi . . . .	48	-1 49

\* Source: Compiled from data from U. S. Off. Educ., *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1929*.

The index is based on the following six items, equally weighted: per cent of population registered, per capita annual circulation, per capita annual total expenditure, per capita annual expenditure for books, number of volumes held per capita, number of volumes added per capita in one year.

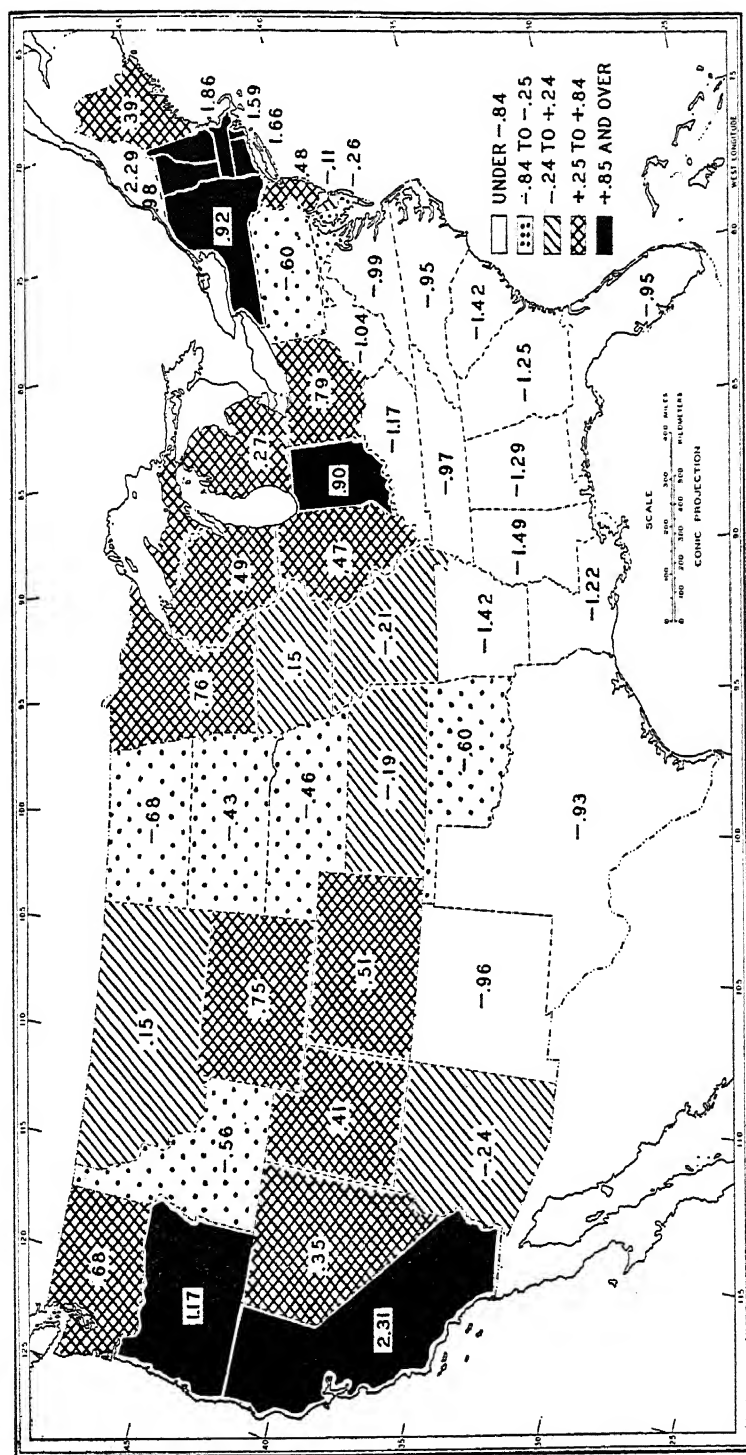


FIG. 52.—Index of library development, 1929. Source: Same as for Table 52. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

The regional summary (Fig. 51) is particularly revealing in that it shows, at a glance, the degree to which public libraries have been developed above, or below, the average in each of the six regions. If this summary and the regional summary for the per cent of the rural population of each state residing in public library districts (Fig. 8) are looked at together, they will be seen to give the answer to the question with which Part I of this publication began: How evenly are libraries and library resources distributed throughout the United States? Their ac-

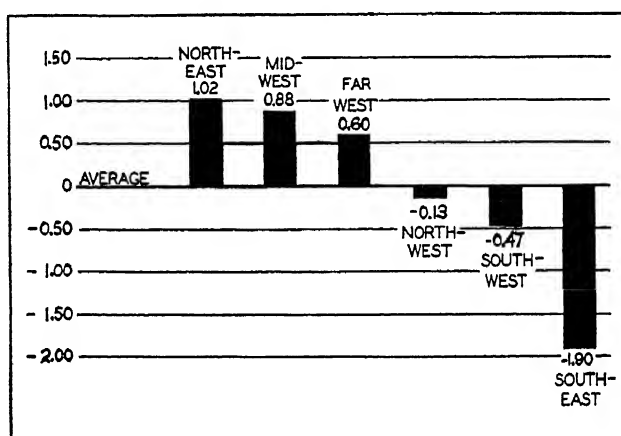


FIG. 53.—Regional summary of index of library development, 1929

cessibility varies widely from community to community, county to county, state to state, and region to region, and for approximately 40,000,000 residents of rural America library service through the local free, tax-supported library does not exist at all.

Table 52 and Figures 52 and 53 are based on: per cent of population registered, per capita annual circulation, per capita annual total expenditure, per capita annual expenditure for books, volumes per capita held, and volumes per capita added annually, for all libraries of all types (including public) in 1929.

Table 53 and Figure 54 show the ranking of the counties of Illinois on the basis of a composite index of public library development containing eight separate elements. Nine counties

TABLE 53\*  
INDEX OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT, ILLINOIS

County	Rank	Standard Score	County	Rank	Standard Score
Kane . . . . .	1	2.40	McHenry . . . . .	44	-0.14
Warren . . . . .	1	2.40	Madison . . . . .	46	-0.15
Henry . . . . .	3	2.13	Douglas . . . . .	47	-0.16
Piatt . . . . .	4	2.02	Lawrence . . . . .	48	-0.18
Knox . . . . .	5	1.99	Kendall . . . . .	49	-0.20
Lake . . . . .	5	1.99	Edgar . . . . .	50	-0.25
Rock Island . . . . .	7	1.84	Mason . . . . .	51	-0.27
Peoria . . . . .	8	1.76	Bureau . . . . .	52	-0.30
Winnebago . . . . .	9	1.47	Grundy . . . . .	53	-0.43
Alexander . . . . .	10	1.37	Crawford . . . . .	54	-0.47
Sangamon . . . . .	11	1.35	Lee . . . . .	55	-0.48
Stephenson . . . . .	12	1.21	Christian . . . . .	56	-0.49
De Kalb . . . . .	13	1.18	Cass . . . . .	57	-0.50
Cook . . . . .	14	1.03	Marion . . . . .	58	-0.52
Du Page . . . . .	14	1.03	Menard . . . . .	59	-0.55
Morgan . . . . .	16	0.97	Marshall . . . . .	60	-0.57
Macon . . . . .	17	0.91	Jersey . . . . .	61	-0.66
Champaign . . . . .	18	0.84	Fulton . . . . .	62	-0.68
Stark . . . . .	19	0.83	Massac . . . . .	63	-0.73
McLean . . . . .	20	0.82	Richland . . . . .	64	-0.81
La Salle . . . . .	21	0.73	Montgomery . . . . .	65	-0.82
Carroll . . . . .	22	0.57	Williamson . . . . .	66	-0.87
Adams . . . . .	23	0.55	Woodford . . . . .	66	-0.87
De Witt . . . . .	24	0.52	Mercer . . . . .	68	-0.88
Whiteside . . . . .	25	0.41	Franklin . . . . .	69	-0.95
Vermilion . . . . .	26	0.38	Saline . . . . .	70	-0.99
Hancock . . . . .	27	0.35	Scott . . . . .	70	-0.99
Greene . . . . .	28	0.30	Pike . . . . .	72	-1.00
Brown . . . . .	29	0.26	Edwards . . . . .	74	-1.02
Kankakee . . . . .	29	0.26	Jefferson . . . . .	74	-1.02
Logan . . . . .	31	0.23	Shelby . . . . .	74	-1.02
Coles . . . . .	32	0.21	Bond . . . . .	76	-1.07
Jo Daviess . . . . .	33	0.16	Moultrie . . . . .	76	-1.07
Tazewell . . . . .	34	0.15	Clark . . . . .	78	-1.15
McDonough . . . . .	35	0.09	Schuyler . . . . .	79	-1.16
Ogle . . . . .	35	0.09	Macoupin . . . . .	80	-1.20
Ford . . . . .	37	0.07	Fayette . . . . .	81	-1.23
Wabash . . . . .	37	0.07	Jackson . . . . .	82	-1.27
Cumberland . . . . .	39	0.04	Wayne . . . . .	83	-1.34
Boone . . . . .	40	-0.05	White . . . . .	84	-1.38
Will . . . . .	40	-0.05	Clay . . . . .	85	-1.45
Iroquois . . . . .	42	-0.06	Randolph . . . . .	86	-1.51
St. Clair . . . . .	43	-0.11	Johnson . . . . .	87	-1.82
Livingston . . . . .	44	-0.14			

\* Source: Adapted from data in Ill. State Lib., Lib. Ext. Div., *Report for January 1, 1928 to December 31, 1929; 1930-31; 1932-33*; Ill. State Lib., Lib. Ext. Div., *Statistics of the Libraries of Illinois, 1930; 1932*. Nine counties have no libraries, and for six the data are incomplete.

Index computed from data covering (1) per cent of population served, (2) per cent of population registered, (3) tax support, (4) expenditures for books, periodicals, and bindings, (5) expenditures for salaries, (6) holdings, (7) additions, 1929-32, and (8) circulation.

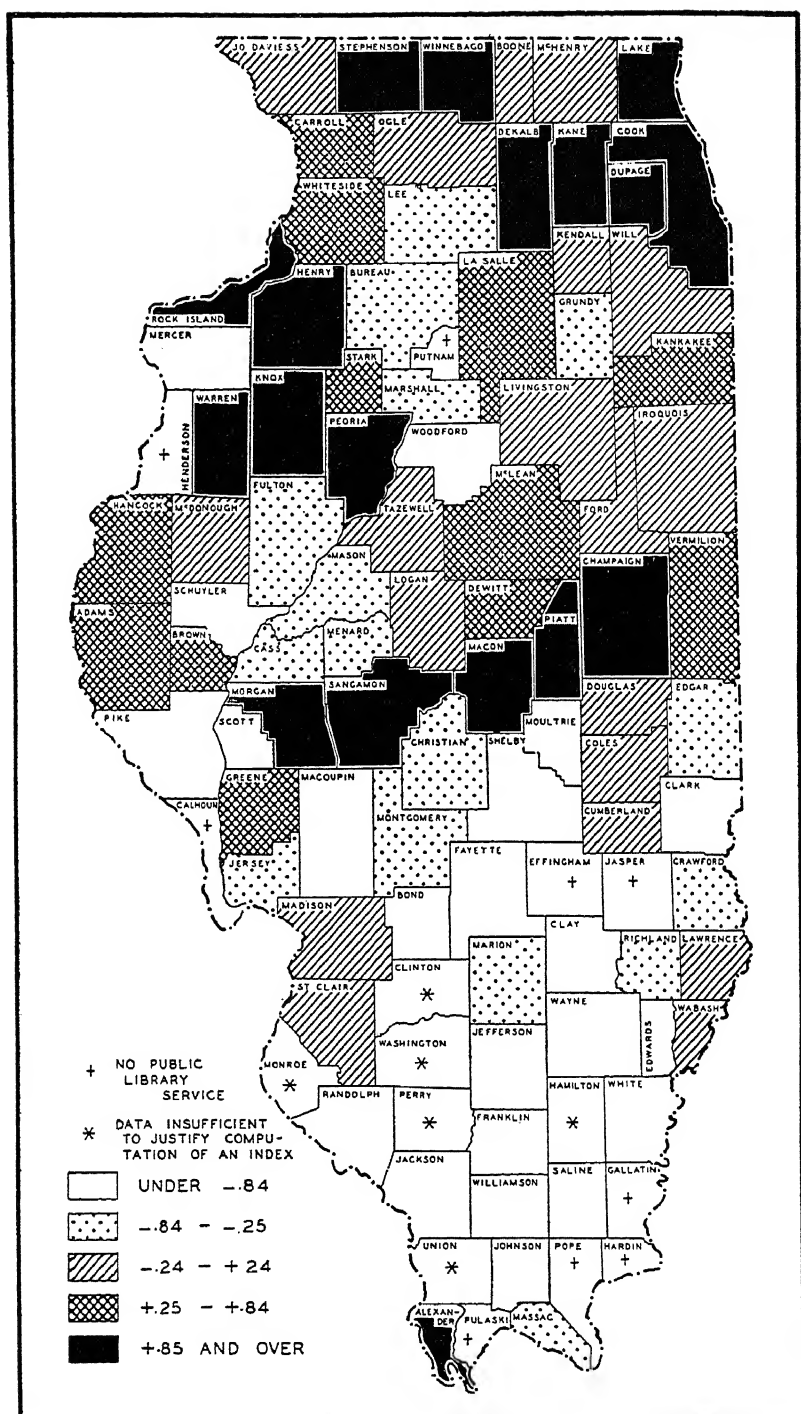


FIG. 54.—Index of library development, Illinois. Source: Same as for Table 53

possessed no public libraries for the period covered by the table, and comparable data were not available for another six. Data for such library service as has been provided by the Works Progress Administration since 1936 are not included. The comparative lack of library facilities in the southern half of the state is sharply brought out in the map. In this respect, the variation within the state corresponds, in the main, with the variation of library facilities in other states and in the nation, generally, except that no state fails to possess some public library facilities, whereas counties and other political units within states frequently do not possess them.

#### SUMMARY

The purpose of Part I of this study, as stated at the outset, was to take inventory of the library resources of America. It was to determine as accurately as possible the extent to which the library is available to Americans as an effective instrument in maintaining and promoting a clear understanding of the problems with which citizens are confronted in a highly complex, dynamic democracy. It was to show how equally, or unequally, the one hundred and twenty odd million inhabitants of the nation share in those benefits which the library has to confer upon those who find a more intelligent, more satisfying way of life through books.

The major facts in this inventory may be summarized as follows:

1. *Public libraries.*—On the credit side it may be set down that in 1934, 6,235 public libraries served population areas in which 77,644,948 people lived. They owned 100,470,215 volumes and circulated 449,998,845 volumes to 26,000,000 borrowers. The expenditure for their support was \$45,855,400, or 37 cents per capita, for the entire population, or 59 cents per capita for the population actually served. On the debit side it appears that approximately 45,000,000 people, or 37 per cent of the entire population, had no public library service. Of these 39,500,000 lived in rural areas and 5,500,000 in cities. Of the



45,000,000 without service, approximately one-half lived in the Southeast and Southwest, and approximately 8,000,000 were Negroes.

2. *College and university libraries.*—For the use of the student in American colleges and universities library resources have been steadily developed, and since 1900 they have been increased very rapidly. The inequality which existed between them and the resources of comparable libraries abroad has been greatly reduced, and through the development of the film this inequality is in the way of being even further reduced. Fourteen hundred and sixty such libraries contained 52,919,063 volumes in 1931-32 and spent an estimated \$18,965,067 for their maintenance and development. Harvard University library has the pre-eminence in this field, with a total collection in 1935-36 of 3,795,502 volumes and an average annual addition from 1919-1920 through 1934-35 of 111,241 volumes. The northeast quarter of the nation is equipped particularly well with libraries of this kind.

3. *State and federal libraries.*—Since the beginning of the state and national governments, libraries have been provided for governmental purposes. State libraries exist in every one of the 48 states, and in 1935 there were 135 state library agencies of one kind or another which altogether contained a total of 12,000,000 volumes.<sup>15</sup> The Library of Congress, the major libraries of the federal government located in the District of Columbia, and libraries serving federal departments, agencies, and organizations there and elsewhere, have been developed with great success and serve the nation in many admirable ways. Mr. Hill lists the total number of such libraries in Washington, alone, at 166: they contained 10,830,900 volumes in 1934. Greater co-operation among the existing libraries, the extension of their bibliographical resources, and assistance in the development of additional resources in regions now without such aids, would

<sup>15</sup> American Library Association, Special Committee on Federal Relations, *op. cit.*, p. 32.

greatly promote the work of students and scholars throughout the nation.

4. *Special libraries*.—Special libraries, designed particularly to serve commercial and industrial interests, have been rapidly developed since 1900. The Special Libraries Association lists 1,475 libraries which contained 27,038,113 volumes in 1934.

5. *School libraries*.—The inventory of school libraries has both a favorable and an unfavorable side. Where school libraries have been developed properly they are contributing greatly to the enrichment of the educational program of the schools and should assist the oncoming generation to use print effectively in gaining an intelligent understanding of the present changing social order. Of 103,081 public elementary and secondary schools reporting in 1934-35, 61,390 were served by classroom or centralized libraries. Twenty-seven thousand, seven hundred, and sixty-six of these schools enrolling 7,214,321 of a total of 12,501,017 pupils, had centralized libraries which contained 28,612,500 volumes. These data covered only 50 per cent of city and 30 per cent of the rural schools of the entire country.

Taken altogether, the data presented in this and preceding chapters bring into sharp relief the library map of the nation. They show convincingly that reading in the United States, in so far as it is influenced by the presence or absence of libraries, conforms to certain well-defined boundaries. They reveal areas and regions in which the library in its various forms is largely lacking; other areas and regions in which it is unevenly and inadequately developed; and still others in which it is highly concentrated and so equipped and supported that it is abundantly able to contribute to the economic, social, intellectual, and cultural development of America.



## PART II

### DISTRIBUTION OF OTHER FACILITIES FOR EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION



## CHAPTER VIII

### BOOKSTORES, RENTAL LIBRARIES, AND BOOK CLUBS

**A**N ATTEMPT was made in Part I to answer the question: How evenly are libraries and library resources distributed throughout the United States? In Part II an attempt is made to answer a second question: Is the marked inequality in the distribution of library resources shown in Part I accompanied by a similar inequality in the status of other social, educational, and cultural institutions and organizations and media of communication which may be thought of as bearing a relationship to library development?

Tables, maps, and regional summaries will be used in answering this question in the same way in which they were employed in Part I. The share which these organizations and media of communication may have in causing or promoting library development will be reserved for consideration in Part III, which is devoted to general consideration of causes responsible for the variation seen in Part I.

#### THE NATION'S TOTAL BOOK PRODUCTION

The ancient clay tablet, or papyrus, or manuscript, was a medium for the communication of ideas. It was limited largely, however, to the prince or temple, monastery, library, or friend for whom it was prepared. It was only after the invention of printing that the book, the successor of all these forms of writing, became the first medium of mass communication, antedating the newspaper, the magazine, and the much more recent radio and moving picture.

Strangely enough, however, agencies for the publication and sale of books are limited in comparison with those for

the communication of ideas through other media; and the annual production and sale of books, while seemingly extensive when looked at from the point of view of totals, are, by comparison, extremely limited. Mr. Duffus, in writing of this fact, says: "Newspapers and magazines are heavy lines in our cultural patterns, whereas books as yet are but faint tracteries."<sup>1</sup> In this statement he gave apt expression to a situation which had been noted by a writer<sup>2</sup> in *The Outlook* over twenty

TABLE 54\*  
GROSS BOOK PRODUCTION, 1929-35

Production	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
New book titles . .	8,342	8,134	8,506	7,556	6,813	6,788	6,914
Net change . .	. .	-208	342	-950	-743	-25	126
New editions and re- printings . . . .	1,845	1,893	1,801	1,479	1,279	1,410	1,852
Net change. . .	. . .	48	-92	-422	-200	131	442
Total number of titles printed . .	10,187	10,027	10,307	9,035	8,092	8,198	8,766
Net change . . .	. . . . .	-160	280	-1,272	-943	106	568
Total number of copies	214,334,423†	.	154,461,622‡	.	110,789,913†	.	140,651,953‡

\* Source Summaries for book production of these years are found in the *Publishers' Weekly*, CXVII (January 25, 1930); CXIX (January 24, 1931), CXXI (January 23, 1932), CXXIII (January 21, 1933), CXXV (January 20, 1934); CXXVII (January 19, 1935), CXXIX (January 18, 1936)

† Source U.S. Bur. Census, "Census of Manufactures 1935, Printing and Publishing" (Mimeo release, Industries Nos. 308 and 510; April 14, 1937), p. 9.

‡ Source U.S. Bur. Census, *Biennial Census of Manufactures 1933* (Wash. Govt. Print. Off., 1936), p. 303.

ty years earlier, and also in another article, in 1913, by Mr. Wyer.<sup>3</sup>

Tables 54 and 55 present data concerning the book industry in the United States from 1929 to 1935. Table 54 shows the new titles printed, the new editions issued, and the totals of all titles published annually during the period. Table 55 carries

<sup>1</sup> R. L. Duffus, *Books: Their Place in a Democracy* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1930), p. 4.

<sup>2</sup> J. C. Dana, *Libraries: Addresses and Essays* (White Plains, N.Y.: H. W. Wilson Company, 1916), pp. 111-12, 292-93.

<sup>3</sup> J. I. Wyer, Jr., "What Americans Read," *Bulletin of the New Hampshire Public Libraries*, IX (1913), 161-70.

the information farther for the single year, 1933—the trough year of the depression—and estimates the gross sales of different classes of books during that year. From these tables it is clear that the total number of books published in 1933 (110,789,913) showed a great reduction from that of the peak for 1929 (214,334,423). The tables also indicate that if the total cost of the books produced in 1933 (\$109,000,000) had been distributed on a per capita basis for the entire population, there would have

TABLE 55\*

ESTIMATED BOOK SALES BY DIFFERENT BRANCHES OF THE  
BOOK INDUSTRY, 1933

1. Elementary and high school textbook publishers†.....	\$ 30,000,000
2. College textbook publishers†.....	6,000,000
3. Trade book publishers†.....	25,000,000
4. Subscription book publishers‡.....	26,000,000
5. Medical book publishers†.....	7,000,000
6. Law book publishers‡.....	12,000,000
7. Bible publishers (exclusive of free distribution)†.....	2,000,000
8. Play publishers‡.....	1,000,000
<hr/>	
Total.....	\$109,000,000

\* Source: Correspondence from Mr. John O'Connor furnished an estimate of the sales of books published in 1933, made on the basis of data used in code hearings before the N.R.A. Data in the U.S. Census on "Printing and Publishing" cover both books and pamphlets, but do not give the amounts for each separately.

† At net wholesale prices.

‡ At retail prices.

been that year available to each American slightly less than one new book, of which the wholesale price would have approximated 89 cents.<sup>4</sup>

#### DISTRIBUTION THROUGH BOOKSTORES

The part which the bookstore, in its various forms, plays in the distribution of books has been made the object of study far less frequently than that played by the library. Who its patrons are, how many volumes per capita are sold by it, what the annual per capita expenditure is for its wares—these, and many

<sup>4</sup> Correspondence with Mr. John O'Connor, of the W F. Quarrie and Company, 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois, April, 1936.



other questions concerning its range and extent, have only now and then been analyzed.<sup>5</sup>

Similarly, the relation between bookstores and libraries has not been carefully scrutinized. Is the bookstore, like the library, largely an urban institution? Do bookstores flourish where libraries do not, and in that respect take the place of libraries? Do libraries stimulate the purchase of books? Does the purchase of books decrease library use? Do people of different economic status make different uses of bookstores and libraries? Is there co-operation between libraries and bookstores in elevating taste in reading and in stimulating reading interest? These, and other questions concerning the relations which exist between these two media for the circulation and use of books, have only occasionally been made the subject of detailed study.<sup>6</sup>

Certain facts, however, are known concerning the bookstore. The most significant of these is that the total number listed in 1935 was 6,000,<sup>7</sup> or 235 less than the total number of public libraries; that the total output of books by publishing houses in 1933 was 110,789,913 copies; that the total number of pamphlets issued the same year was 143,487,479;<sup>8</sup> and that the total value of the books published in 1933, not including pamphlets, was estimated to be \$109,000,000.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Cf., O. H. Cheney, *Economic Survey of the Book Industry, 1930-1931* (New York: National Association of Book Publishers, 1931); *American Booktrade Directory, 1935* (New York: R. R. Bowker Company, 1935).

In the tables which follow, based on this *Directory*, consideration is limited to the bookstores, rental libraries, and juvenile departments which are included in that list. Obviously, many very small units are not included, but, of necessity, some standard list had to be used.

<sup>6</sup> Cf., R. A. Miller, "The Relation of Reading Characteristics to Social Indexes," *American Journal of Sociology*, XLI (1936), 738-56; R. E. Ellsworth, "The Distribution of Books and Magazines in Selected Communities" (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1937); W. C. Haygood, "Who Uses The Public Library" (MS in Press).

<sup>7</sup> *American Booktrade Directory, 1935*, p. 38.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Biennial Census of Manufactures: 1933* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1936), p. 303. (Error in number of books reported corrected in mimeographed reprint.)

<sup>9</sup> Correspondence with John O'Connor, April, 1936.

TABLE 56\*

GROSS NUMBER OF BOOKSTORES PER 1,000,000 POPULATION, 1935

STATE	RANK	BOOKSTORES		STANDARD SCORE
		Number	Per 1,000,000 Population	
Rhode Island....	1	92	133.82	3.02
Vermont. ....	2	42	116.79	2.41
Nevada.....	3	10	109.82	2.16
New Hampshire ..	4	45	96.71	1.69
Connecticut . . . . .	5	145	90.24	1.46
Washington.....	6	137	87.63	1.37
New York....	7	1,078	85.64	1.30
California.. . . .	8	471	82.96	1.21
Maine.....	9	61	76.50	0.98
Idaho.....	10	32	71.90	0.81
Massachusetts. . . . .	11	301	70.83	0.77
Colorado.....	12	69	66.62	0.62
Oregon.....	13	52	54.52	0.19
Illinois.....	14	407	53.34	0.15
New Jersey.....	15	210	51.96	0.10
Arizona.....	16	22	50.51	0.05
Florida.....	17	72	49.04	0.00
Pennsylvania... . .	18	463	48.07	-0.04
Ohio.....	19	314	47.24	-0.07
Montana... . . . .	20	25	46.50	-0.09
Iowa.....	21	113	45.73	-0.12
Indiana.....	22	144	44.46	-0.17
Kansas. . . . .	23	83	44.13	-0.18
Maryland . . . . .	23	72	44.13	-0.18
Utah . . . . .	25	22	43.32	-0.21
Missouri . . . . .	26	157	43.26	-0.21
Wisconsin. . . . .	27	124	42.19	-0.25
Delaware. . . . .	28	10	41.95	-0.26
Nebraska. . . . .	29	57	41.37	-0.28
Minnesota . . . . .	30	105	40.95	-0.29
Michigan.. . . .	31	181	37.38	-0.42
Virginia.....	32	90	37.16	-0.43
New Mexico....	33	14	33.07	-0.57
Texas.....	34	160	27.47	-0.77
South Dakota....	35	19	27.42	-0.77
Tennessee. . . . .	36	71	27.13	-0.78
North Dakota....	37	18	26.44	-0.81
Oklahoma . . . . .	38	61	25.46	-0.84
West Virginia . . . . .	39	41	23.71	-0.90
Arkansas.....	40	43	23.19	-0.92
Wyoming . . . . .	41	5	22.17	-0.96
Kentucky . . . . .	42	57	21.80	-0.97
North Carolina . . . . .	43	66	20.82	-1.01
South Carolina.. . . .	44	36	20.70	-1.01
Georgia . . . . .	45	58	19.94	-1.04
Louisiana . . . . .	46	36	17.13	-1.14
Alabama.....	47	34	12.85	-1.29
Mississippi.....	48	24	11.94	-1.32

\* Source: Computed from *American Booktrade Directory, 1935* (N.Y.: R.R. Bowker Co., 1935).

Mean per 1,000,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 49.12, standard deviation, 28.08; U.S. total, 6,000, U.S. bookstores per 1,000,000 population (including District of Columbia), 48.87.

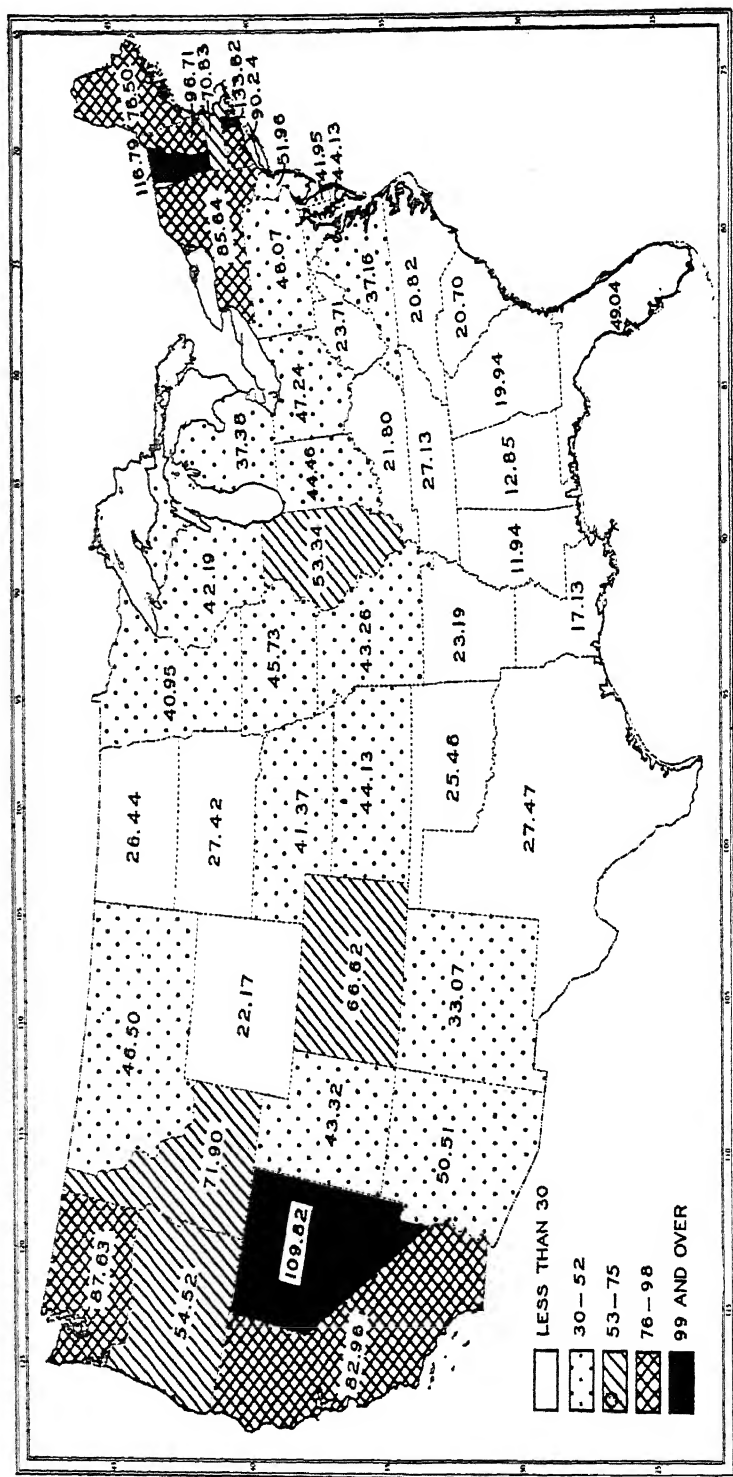


Fig. 55.—Gross number of bookstores per 1,000,000 population, 1935. Source: Same as for Table 56. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

The distribution of bookstores, by states, is shown in Table 56 and Figures 55 and 56.

The gross number of bookstores, including juvenile departments and rental libraries, per 1,000,000 population in each state, describes their relative accessibility in a general way. In this respect, a tremendous difference exists between the Northeast and the Far West, and the Southeast and the Southwest. On this basis, Rhode Island, the top-ranking state, has one bookstore to each 7,462 people. Mississippi, on the same basis, has one to each 84,035. A comparison of Figure 55 with the library index (Fig. 50) suggests that the states which are represented

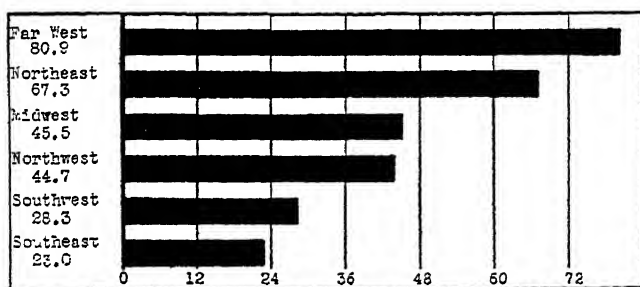


FIG. 56.—Regional summary of gross number of bookstores per 1,000,000 population, 1935.

with good library service are better supplied with bookstores than those in which library facilities are relatively poorly developed. A few states stand higher in library service than in number of bookstores. Massachusetts is 2.31 units of standard deviation above the average for the forty-eight states in library service and 0.77 above in number of bookstores. New Jersey is 0.96 units above in the former and 0.10 in the latter. Ohio stands 0.98 units above in the former and 0.07 below in the latter. Wyoming ranks 1.11, and 0.96 below, respectively. A few rank higher in number of bookstores than in library service. Idaho, for example, is 0.64 below in library service and 0.81 above in number of bookstores.

The table and figures to which reference has been made relate to total population. Consequently, they do not distinguish

TABLE 57\*  
PER CENT OF POPULATION WITH LISTED BOOK OUTLETS

State	Rank	Per Cent	Standard Score
Connecticut . . . . .	1	100 0	1.50
Delaware . . . . .	1	100 0	1.50
Massachusetts . . . . .	3	99.9	1.49
New Jersey . . . . .	4	99.1	1.46
New York . . . . .	5	98.9	1.45
Vermont . . . . .	5	98.9	1.45
New Hampshire . . . . .	7	96.9	1.36
Pennsylvania . . . . .	8	96.7	1.36
Ohio . . . . .	9	91.2	1.12
Maine . . . . .	10	90.3	1.08
Rhode Island . . . . .	11	88.9	1.02
California . . . . .	12	88.6	1.01
Michigan . . . . .	13	87.7	0.97
Illinois . . . . .	14	86.8	0.93
Washington . . . . .	15	85.8	0.89
Oregon . . . . .	16	77.6	0.54
Wisconsin . . . . .	17	76.2	0.48
Maryland . . . . .	18	71.0	0.26
Indiana . . . . .	19	69.9	0.21
Florida . . . . .	20	68.8	0.17
Arizona . . . . .	21	68.5	0.15
Utah . . . . .	22	67.1	0.09
Minnesota . . . . .	23	67.0	0.09
Kansas . . . . .	24	66.2	0.06
Iowa . . . . .	25	63.8	-0.05
Colorado . . . . .	26	62.6	-0.10
Missouri . . . . .	27	62.0	-0.12
Nebraska . . . . .	28	55.6	-0.40
West Virginia . . . . .	29	54.9	-0.43
Texas . . . . .	30	54.1	-0.46
South Carolina . . . . .	31	54.0	-0.46
Montana . . . . .	32	52.5	-0.53
Arkansas . . . . .	33	51.3	-0.58
Virginia . . . . .	34	51.2	-0.58
Tennessee . . . . .	35	46.3	-0.79
North Carolina . . . . .	36	46.2	-0.80
Idaho . . . . .	37	42.4	-0.96
Louisiana . . . . .	38	41.4	-1.00
Oklahoma . . . . .	39	40.6	-1.04
Wyoming . . . . .	40	40.3	-1.05
Alabama . . . . .	41	39.8	-1.07
North Dakota . . . . .	42	38.7	-1.12
Kentucky . . . . .	43	34.8	-1.28
Georgia . . . . .	44	34.4	-1.30
New Mexico . . . . .	45	30.9	-1.45
Nevada . . . . .	46	29.8	-1.50
South Dakota . . . . .	47	24.5	-1.72
Mississippi . . . . .	48	22.6	-1.81

\* Source: O. H. Cheney, *Economic Survey of the Book Industry, 1930-1931* (N.Y.: Natl. Assoc. Book Pubs., 1931), p. 244.

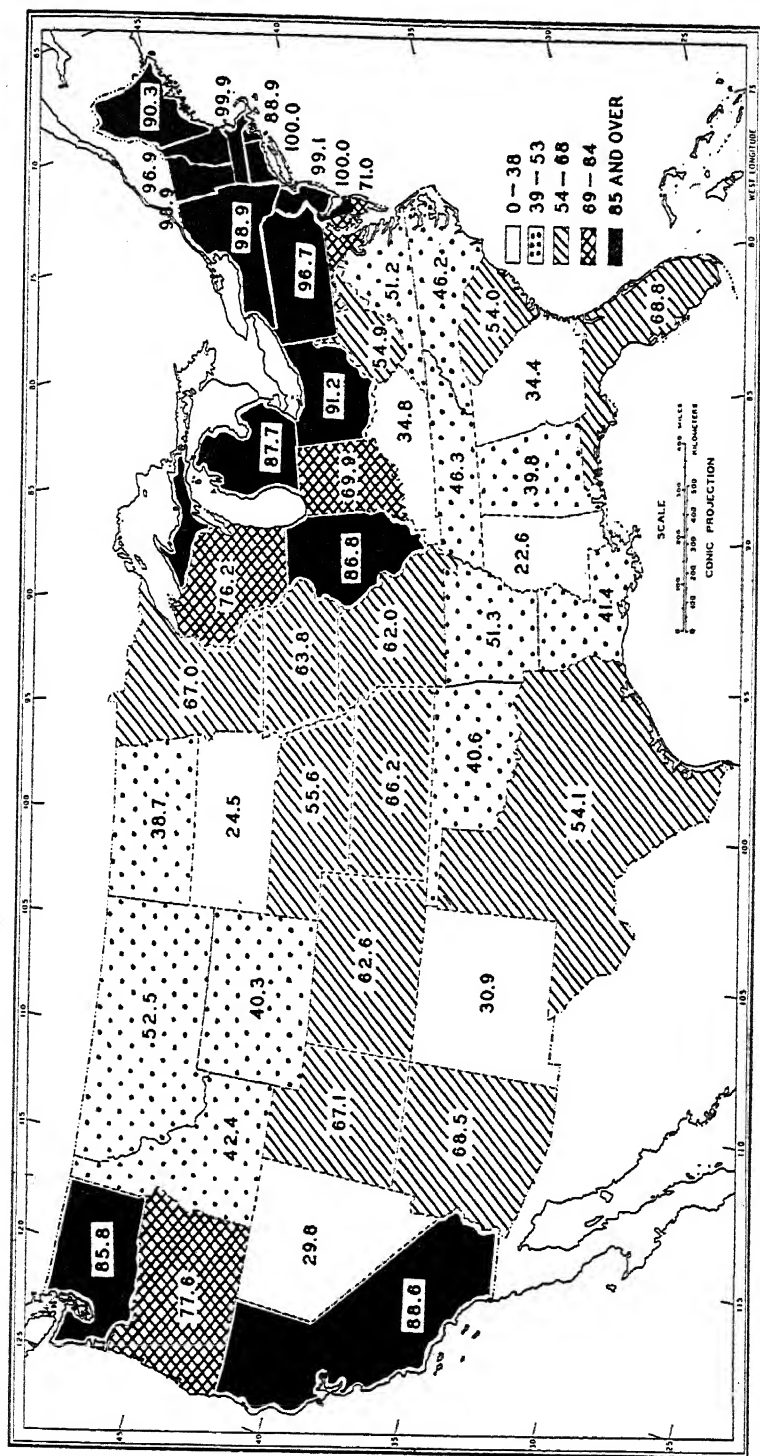


FIG. 57.—Per cent of population with listed book outlets. Source: Same as for Table 57. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

between rural and urban sections, except where states are predominantly rural or urban. Such a distinction must be made. In actuality, a very great difference exists between the number of bookstores in rural areas and urban centers. The bookstore, like the library, is an urban institution. No city with 100,000 population is without book outlets, whereas Mr. Cheney found that 51.3 per cent of the rural population live in counties without bookstores.<sup>10</sup> Furthermore, the service rendered by the bookstore in a large city is more complete than that given by the bookstore in most small towns. The Far West has more

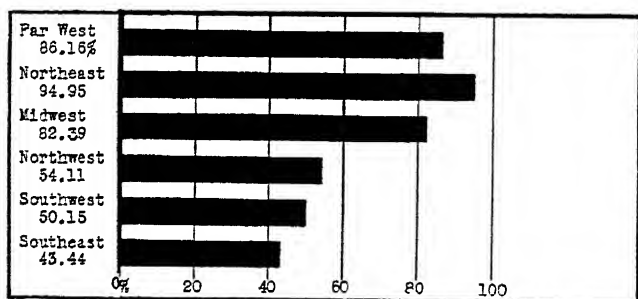


FIG. 58.—Regional summary of per cent of population with listed book outlets

book outlets per 1,000,000 population than the Northeast. This means that in the Northeast a greater per cent of people live in large cities where fewer bookstores serve more people than in the Far West. In terms of per cent the Northeast appears somewhat better than in terms of total number of bookstores available. Table 57 and Figures 57 and 58 show the per cent of the population with listed book outlets. The same areas that are without libraries are, in reality, similarly without bookstores. The difficulty of securing a book, either from a public library, or a bookstore, is far greater in Mississippi, for example, where 69 per cent of the population live in areas without libraries and 77.4 per cent in areas without bookstores, than it is in Massachusetts, where public libraries are available to the entire population and bookstores are accessible to all but one-tenth of one per cent of the population.

<sup>10</sup> Cheney, *op. cit.*, p. 238.

TABLE 58\*  
INDEX OF BOOK SALES

State	Rank	Index	Standard Score
New York . . . . .	1	2.85	4.37
California . . . . .	2	2.04	2.69
Connecticut . . . . .	3	1.70	1.99
Massachusetts . . . . .	4	1.60	1.78
New Jersey . . . . .	5	1.11	0.77
New Hampshire . . . . .	6	1.10	0.75
Vermont . . . . .	7	1.06	0.66
Delaware . . . . .	8	1.05	0.64
Maine . . . . .	9	1.02	0.58
Illinois . . . . .	10	1.01	0.56
Rhode Island . . . . .	11	0.95	0.43
Arizona . . . . .	12	0.91	0.35
Pennsylvania . . . . .	13	0.88	0.29
Nevada . . . . .	13	0.88	0.29
Michigan . . . . .	15	0.86	0.25
Colorado . . . . .	16	0.84	0.21
Wisconsin . . . . .	17	0.78	0.08
Washington . . . . .	18	0.75	0.02
Ohio . . . . .	19	0.73	-0.02
Montana . . . . .	19	0.73	-0.02
Maryland . . . . .	21	0.71	-0.06
Minnesota . . . . .	22	0.70	-0.08
Florida . . . . .	23	0.69	-0.10
Indiana . . . . .	24	0.65	-0.19
Oregon . . . . .	25	0.64	-0.21
Wyoming . . . . .	26	0.63	-0.23
Nebraska . . . . .	27	0.59	-0.31
Iowa . . . . .	28	0.58	-0.33
Missouri . . . . .	29	0.56	-0.37
Kansas . . . . .	30	0.54	-0.41
Virginia . . . . .	31	0.53	-0.43
Utah . . . . .	32	0.52	-0.46
New Mexico . . . . .	32	0.52	-0.46
South Dakota . . . . .	34	0.49	-0.52
North Dakota . . . . .	35	0.44	-0.62
West Virginia . . . . .	35	0.44	-0.62
Georgia . . . . .	37	0.37	-0.77
Idaho . . . . .	38	0.35	-0.81
Texas . . . . .	39	0.34	-0.83
Tennessee . . . . .	40	0.33	-0.85
North Carolina . . . . .	41	0.31	-0.89
Kentucky . . . . .	42	0.28	-0.95
Arkansas . . . . .	43	0.27	-0.97
South Carolina . . . . .	44	0.25	-1.01
Louisiana . . . . .	44	0.25	-1.01
Alabama . . . . .	46	0.24	-1.04
Oklahoma . . . . .	47	0.23	-1.06
Mississippi . . . . .	48	0.15	-1.22

\* Source: Cheney, *op. cit.*, p. 63.



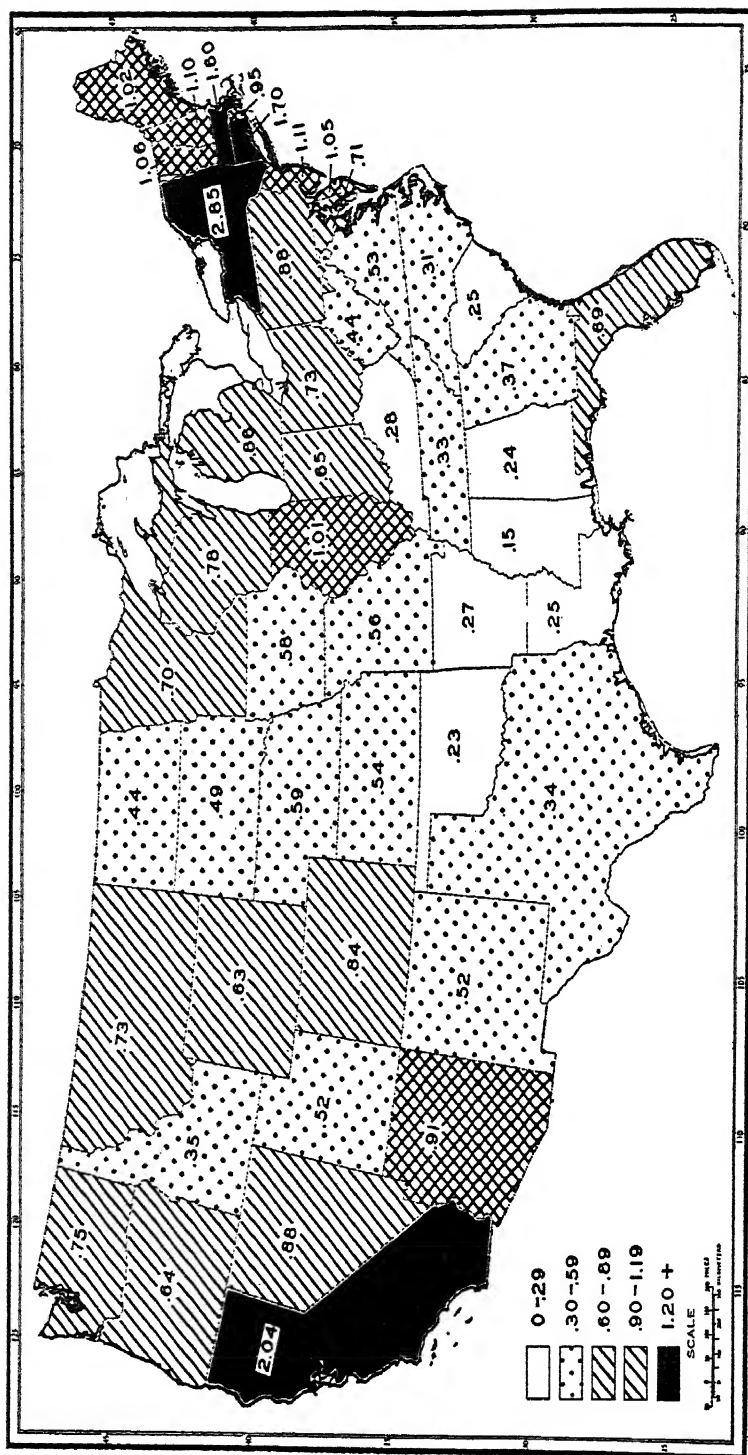


FIG. 59.—Index of book sales. Source: Same as for Table 58. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

So far in the discussion, all bookstores have been considered on even terms. That is, every bookstore has been counted as one unit, regardless of its size. This implies a fallacy which is immediately apparent. A bookstore in New York City may sell a hundred times as many books as one in Nebraska and still receive the same weight. Therefore, a measure of the actual sales must be considered. Table 58 and Figures 59 and 60 deal with this situation. The table is in the form of a carefully computed index which shows that sales of books are high in the Northeast and Far West and are relatively low in the other re-

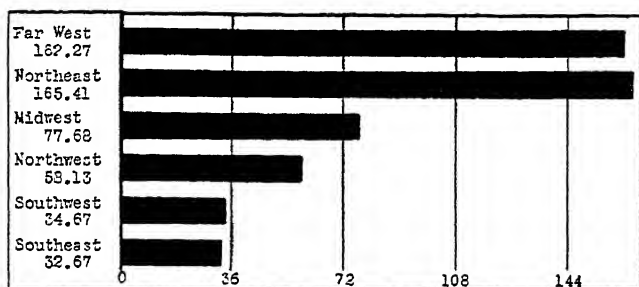


FIG. 60.—Regional summary of index of book sales

gions, especially in the Southeast and Southwest. The same regional inequality is shown to exist when the gross number of bookstores is considered. Thus, the Far West and Northeast have more bookstores and sell more books than do the other regions.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF RENTAL LIBRARIES

The preceding discussion includes all types of bookstores, general, juvenile, and the rental library—if this book-distributing agency may be considered a bookstore. The rental library is a comparative newcomer, but it has assumed considerable importance, particularly as a distributor of recent fiction—often of the lightest character. Because in public libraries the circulation of fiction—usually of a much more substantial type—has frequently constituted one of the major items of the total circulation, the question may well be asked whether the rental

TABLE 59\*

RENTAL LIBRARIES PER 1,000,000 POPULATION, 1935

STATE	RANK	RENTAL LIBRARIES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 1,000,000 Population	
Rhode Island . . . . .	1	51	74.18	4.28
Vermont. . . . .	2	17	47.27	2.22
Connecticut . . . . .	3	70	43.56	1.94
California . . . . .	4	218	38.40	1.54
Oregon. . . . .	5	31	32.50	1.09
New Hampshire. . . . .	6	15	32.24	1.07
Colorado. . . . .	7	31	29.93	0.89
Idaho. . . . .	8	13	29.21	0.83
Washington . . . . .	9	45	28.78	0.81
Florida. . . . .	10	42	28.61	0.78
Massachusetts . . . . .	11	105	24.71	0.49
Kansas. . . . .	12	46	24.46	0.48
Montana. . . . .	13	13	24.18	0.45
New York. . . . .	14	281	22.32	0.31
Maine. . . . .	15	17	21.32	0.24
Utah . . . . .	16	10	19.69	0.11
Illinois. . . . .	17	150	19.66	0.11
New Jersey. . . . .	18	74	18.31	0.00
Delaware. . . . .	19	4	16.78	-0.11
Indiana. . . . .	20	51	15.75	-0.19
Ohio . . . . .	21	104	15.65	-0.20
Wisconsin. . . . .	21	46	15.65	-0.20
Pennsylvania. . . . .	23	143	14.85	-0.26
New Mexico. . . . .	24	6	14.17	-0.31
Iowa. . . . .	25	35	14.16	-0.31
Arizona. . . . .	26	6	13.77	-0.34
Wyoming . . . . .	27	3	13.30	-0.38
Michigan. . . . .	28	62	12.80	-0.42
Nebraska . . . . .	29	17	12.34	-0.45
Minnesota . . . . .	30	31	12.09	-0.47
Missouri . . . . .	31	42	11.57	-0.51
Virginia. . . . .	32	28	11.56	-0.51
Nevada. . . . .	33	1	10.98	-0.56
Oklahoma. . . . .	34	23	9.60	-0.66
Arkansas. . . . .	35	17	9.17	-0.70
North Dakota . . . . .	36	6	8.81	-0.72
South Dakota. . . . .	37	6	8.66	-0.73
Texas. . . . .	38	50	8.58	-0.74
Georgia. . . . .	39	24	8.25	-0.77
Kentucky. . . . .	40	21	8.03	-0.78
Maryland. . . . .	41	13	7.97	-0.79
North Carolina. . . . .	42	24	7.57	-0.82
West Virginia. . . . .	43	13	7.52	-0.82
Alabama . . . . .	44	17	6.42	-0.91
Mississippi. . . . .	45	12	5.97	-0.94
Louisiana . . . . .	46	12	5.71	-0.96
Tennessee . . . . .	47	13	4.97	-1.02
South Carolina. . . . .	48	7	4.03	-1.09

\* Source. Compiled from *American Booktrade Directory*, 1935.

Mean per 1,000,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 18.25; standard deviation, 13.06; U.S. total, 2,087; U.S. rental libraries per 1,000,000 population (including District of Columbia), 16.94.

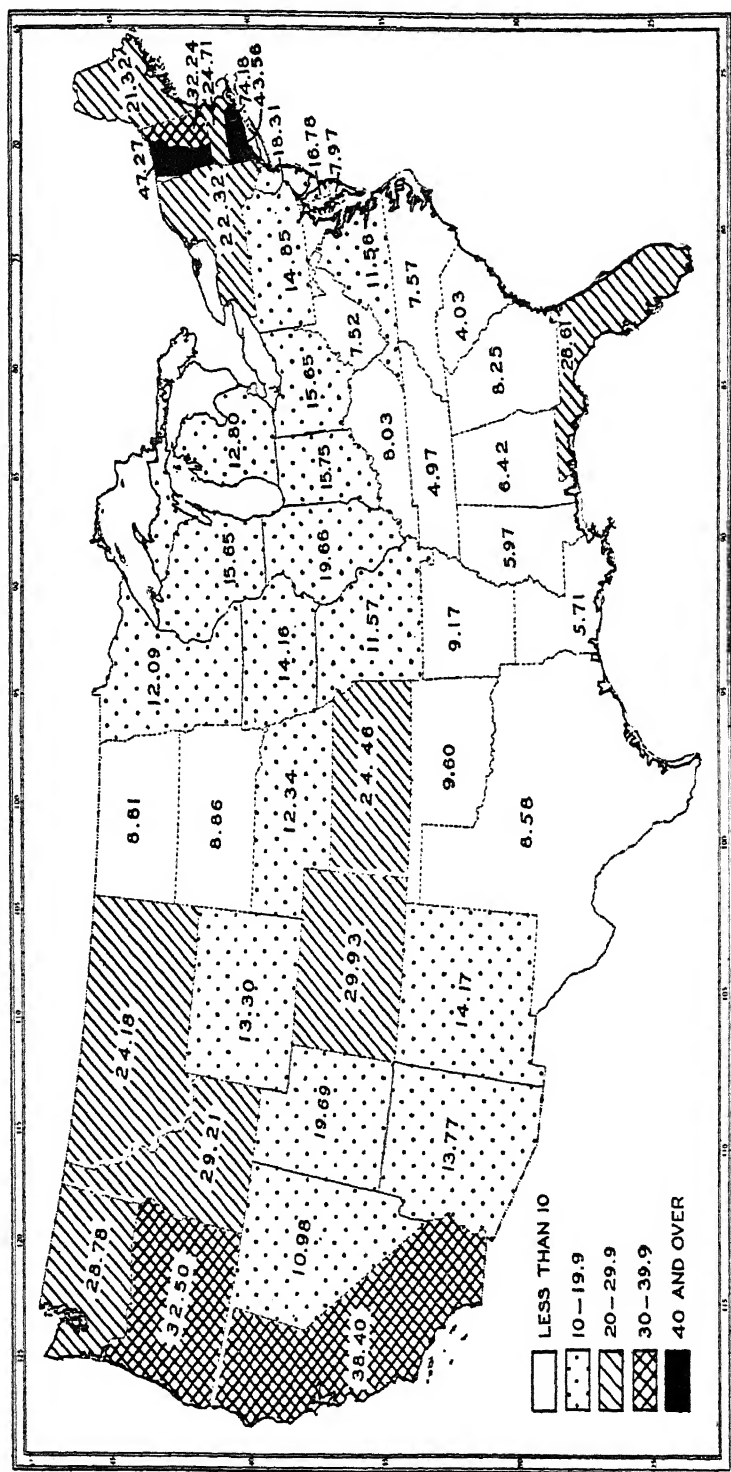


FIG. 61.—Rental libraries per 1,000,000 population, 1935. Source: Same as for Table 59. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

library has sprung up to take the place of the public library where the latter has been lacking. The answer to this question is negative and may be found in the data of Table 59.

Figures 61 and 62, as well as Table 59, indicate clearly that rental libraries exist in relative abundance where public library service is best; and that they do not exist in large numbers, relatively, where library service is poorest, although the regional inequalities in the distribution of rental libraries seem to be less in the Northeast, Northwest, and Midwest than those in the distribution of library service in the same regions. Thus the differences in terms of rental libraries between the Northeast, Mid-



FIG. 62.—Regional summary of rental libraries per 1,000,000 population, 1935

west, and Northwest are comparatively insignificant, whereas in terms of library service the differences are definitely significant. A few states stand higher in library service than in number of rental libraries. Massachusetts ranks 2.31 units of standard deviation above the average for the forty-eight states in the former, and 0.49 above in the latter; New Jersey stands 0.96 above in the former, and exactly at the mean in the latter; Ohio is 0.98 above, and 0.20 below, respectively. Twenty-five states rank higher in number of rental libraries than in library service. Florida, for example, ranks  $-0.82$  in public library service, but  $+0.78$  in rental libraries. Idaho similarly stands at  $-0.64$  in the former, and at  $+0.83$  in the latter.

On the basis of these data, it would seem that rental libraries have been developed, not so much to substitute for the lack of libraries, as to make available certain types of books at con-

venient places and under conditions which appeal to certain population groups. It appears that large numbers of rental libraries are co-existent with good library service; that regions which have relatively poor library service also have relatively few rental libraries. In the development of both services urbanization plays an important role. The fact that chain rental libraries were just beginning to be organized in the early 1930's may account for an apparent increase in number of outlets rather than an increase in volume of business<sup>11</sup> at the moment when public libraries were being confronted with the greatest demand for books and with the greatest reduction in book budgets. Whatever the causes may have been which have brought the rental library into being, its existence seems to afford the public library an opportunity to reconsider its own educational and recreational functions and to make a more satisfactory differentiation between them.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF JUVENILE BOOKSTORES

The development of work with children in American public libraries has been one of the library's most distinctive achievements. It can hardly be conceived, therefore, that the juvenile bookstore or department can be a competitor of the children's service in the public library. On the contrary, it is frequently true that the presence of good library service for children stimulates the purchasing of children's books of high quality and thus makes possible the maintenance of excellent juvenile book departments in bookstores. The Stevenson Room in the Cleveland Public Library and the recently established Mother's Room of the Youngstown (Ohio) Public Library are both notable for their service in aiding parents in the selection of books which they wish to purchase for their own home bookshelves.

<sup>11</sup> Douglas Waples, *People and Print: Social Aspects of Reading in the Depression* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1937), chap. iv, Fig. 2, shows that the number of rental libraries has increased steadily since 1930. He doubts if there has been an appreciable increase in volume; but points out the fact that there is little information available concerning the extent of service, since the owners have not kept records which supply information of this character.

TABLE 60\*  
JUVENILE BOOKSTORES AND DEPARTMENTS PER 1,000,000  
POPULATION 5-17 YEARS OF AGE, 1935

STATE	RANK	JUVENILE BOOKSTORES AND DEPARTMENTS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 1,000,000 Population 5-17 Years	
Vermont.....	1	18	50 05	3.69
New Hampshire..	2	18	38 69	2.43
Nevada .....	3	3	32 95	1.79
Colorado..	4	34	32 83	1.78
Kansas .....	5	54	28 71	1.32
Connecticut . . .	6	43	26 76	1.10
Rhode Island. . .	7	17	24.73	0.88
Idaho..	8	11	24 72	0.87
California . . .	9	131	23 07	0.69
Massachusetts . .	10	97	22 83	0.66
Washington . . .	11	35	22 39	0.62
Florida..	12	31	21 11	0.47
New York .....	13	253	20 10	0.36
Utah ..	14	10	19 69	0.32
Oregon. . .	15	18	18 87	0.23
Maine..	16	15	18.81	0.22
Montana .. . . .	17	10	18.60	0.20
Arizona . . .	18	8	18 37	0.17
New Jersey.. . .	19	74	18.31	0.16
Wyoming . . . . .	20	4	17.73	0.10
Illinois . . . . .	21	134	17.56	0.08
Wisconsin. . . . .	22	49	16.67	-0.02
Iowa. . . . .	23	41	16.59	-0.03
Indiana.....	24	53	16.37	-0.05
Michigan.....	25	72	14.87	-0.22
Pennsylvania . .	26	138	14 33	-0.28
Ohio . . . . .	27	92	13 84	-0.33
Nebraska.. . . .	28	19	13.79	-0.34
Missouri... . . .	29	48	12 67	-0.46
Minnesota. . . . .	30	32	12.48	-0.48
New Mexico.. . . .	31	5	11.81	-0.56
North Dakota . . .	32	8	11 75	-0.57
South Dakota. . . .	33	8	11.55	-0.59
Oklahoma. . . . .	34	26	10.85	-0.66
Arkansas . . . . .	35	20	10.78	-0.67
Virginia.....	36	25	10 32	-0.72
West Virginia.. . .	37	17	9 83	-0.78
Georgia . . . . .	38	27	9 28	-0.84
Texas... . . . .	39	54	9.27	-0.84
Delaware . . . . .	40	2	8 39	-0.94
North Carolina... .	41	26	8.20	-0.96
South Carolina. . .	42	14	8.05	-0.98
Maryland .....	43	13	7 97	-0.98
Kentucky.. . . .	44	20	7.65	-1.02
Tennessee.....	45	18	6 88	-1.11
Louisiana .....	46	13	6.19	-1.18
Alabama .....	47	15	5 67	-1.24
Mississippi.....	48	11	5.47	-1.26

\* Source Computed from *American Booktrade Directory, 1935*.  
Mean per 1,000,000 population 5-17 years of age (based on means of the 48 states), 16.84; standard deviation, 9.00; U.S. total, 1,899, U.S. juvenile bookstores and departments per 1,000,000 population 5-17 years of age (including District of Columbia), 15.47.

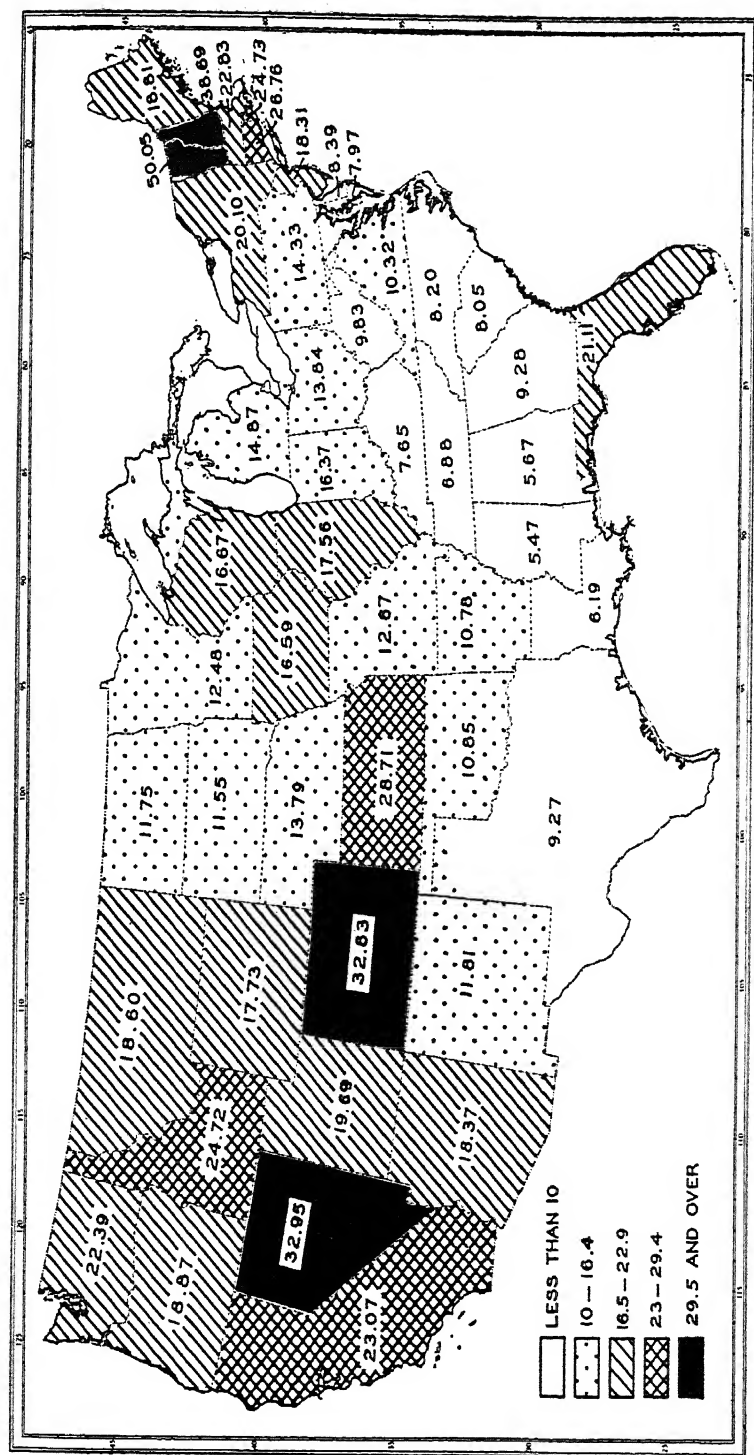


FIG. 63.—Juvenile bookstores and departments per 1,000,000 population 5-17 years of age, 1935. Source: Same as for Table 60. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)



The availability of juvenile bookstores is shown for each state and region in Table 60 and Figures 63 and 64. With the exception of the Northwest, juvenile bookstores seem to be distributed in a pattern quite similar to that of the gross number of bookstores. This is what might be expected, since most large bookstores would be likely to have juvenile departments. The library index for 1934 does not specifically measure the service of children's departments, and consequently this cannot be directly compared with these data. However, it seems reasonable to assume that libraries offering good general service would offer

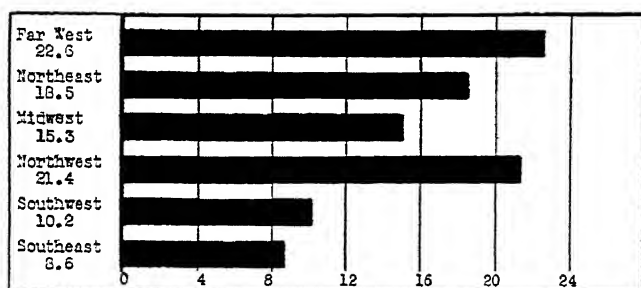


FIG. 64.—Regional summary of juvenile bookstores and departments per 1,000,000 population 5-17 years of age, 1935.

in their children's departments approximately the same quality of service. If that assumption is reasonably justified, then it is possible to say that, with the exception of the Northwest, juvenile book departments exist in greatest numbers where library service is best developed; and that in regions where library service is poorly developed, juvenile book departments are relatively scarce, and children's books are of a relatively poorer order—as the Wilson and Wight survey found in Southern counties without public library service.<sup>12</sup> Vermont has the largest number of juvenile bookstores per capita, and Mississippi the fewest. The range is from 50 (with one store to 20,000 population) to 5.5 (one to 181,818), per 1,000,000 population.

<sup>12</sup> L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), p. 116.

TABLE 61\*

BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB AND LITERARY GUILD SUBSCRIPTIONS PER  
1,000,000 POPULATION, 1933-34

STATE	RANK	SUBSCRIPTIONS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 1,000,000 Population	
Nevada .. . . .	1	311	3,415	3 88
Delaware.. . . .	2	593	2,488	2 24
Wyoming . . . . .	3	488	2,163	1 67
Vermont ... . .	4	691	1,922	1 24
Massachusetts.....	5	7,898	1,859	1 13
New Jersey.. . . .	6	7,403	1,832	1 09
Arizona . . . . .	7	794	1,823	1 07
California... . .	8	10,102	1,779	0 99
New York . . . . .	9	20,929	1,663	0 79
Michigan . . . . .	10	7,621	1,574	0 63
Montana . . . . .	11	837	1,557	0 60
Connecticut . . . .	12	2,468	1,536	0 56
New Hampshire....	13	706	1,517	0 53
Ohio... . . . .	14	9,279	1,396	0 32
Utah.....	15	671	1,321	0 19
Colorado . . . . .	16	1,362	1,315	0 17
Pennsylvania . . . .	17	12,602	1,308	0 16
Maine .. . . .	18	1,026	1,287	0 13
Idaho... . . . .	19	561	1,268	0 08
Illinois... . . . .	20	9,588	1,257	0 07
Maryland . . . . .	21	1,974	1,210	-0 01
Minnesota.. . . .	22	3,003	1,171	-0 08
Missouri... . . .	23	4,127	1,137	-0 14
Iowa... . . . .	24	2,772	1,122	-0 17
Rhode Island .. . .	25	770	1,120	-0 17
Virginia.....	26	2,624	1,083	-0 23
Oregon . . . . .	27	1,019	1,068	-0 26
Wisconsin . . . . .	28	3,066	1,043	-0 31
New Mexico.....	29	440	1,039	-0 31
North Dakota . . . .	30	700	1,028	-0 33
Florida... . . . .	31	1,497	1,020	-0 35
South Dakota . . . .	32	706	1,019	-0 35
Washington... . . .	33	1,559	997	-0 39
Texas... . . . .	34	5,671	974	-0 43
Indiana . . . . .	35	3,139	969	-0 44
Nebraska. . . . .	36	1,180	856	-0 63
Kansas... . . . .	37	1,576	838	-0 67
West Virginia.....	38	1,445	836	-0 67
North Carolina. . . .	39	2,534	799	-0 74
Kentucky . . . . .	40	2,007	768	-0 79
Oklahoma . . . . .	41	1,538	642	-1 01
South Carolina....	42	1,046	602	-1 08
Georgia.....	43	1,582	544	-1 18
Arkansas.....	44	1,000	539	-1 19
Alabama.. . . .	45	1,400	529	-1 21
Louisiana. . . . .	46	1,091	519	-1 23
Tennessee.....	47	1,146	438	-1 37
Tennessee... . . .	48	409	204	-1 78

\* Source: Adapted from data supplied by correspondence with the Book-of-the-Month Club and the Literary Guild.

Mean per 1,000,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 1,216; standard deviation, 567.1; U.S. total, 146,951; U.S. subscriptions for Book-of-the-Month Club and Literary Guild per 1,000,000 population (including District of Columbia), 1,202.

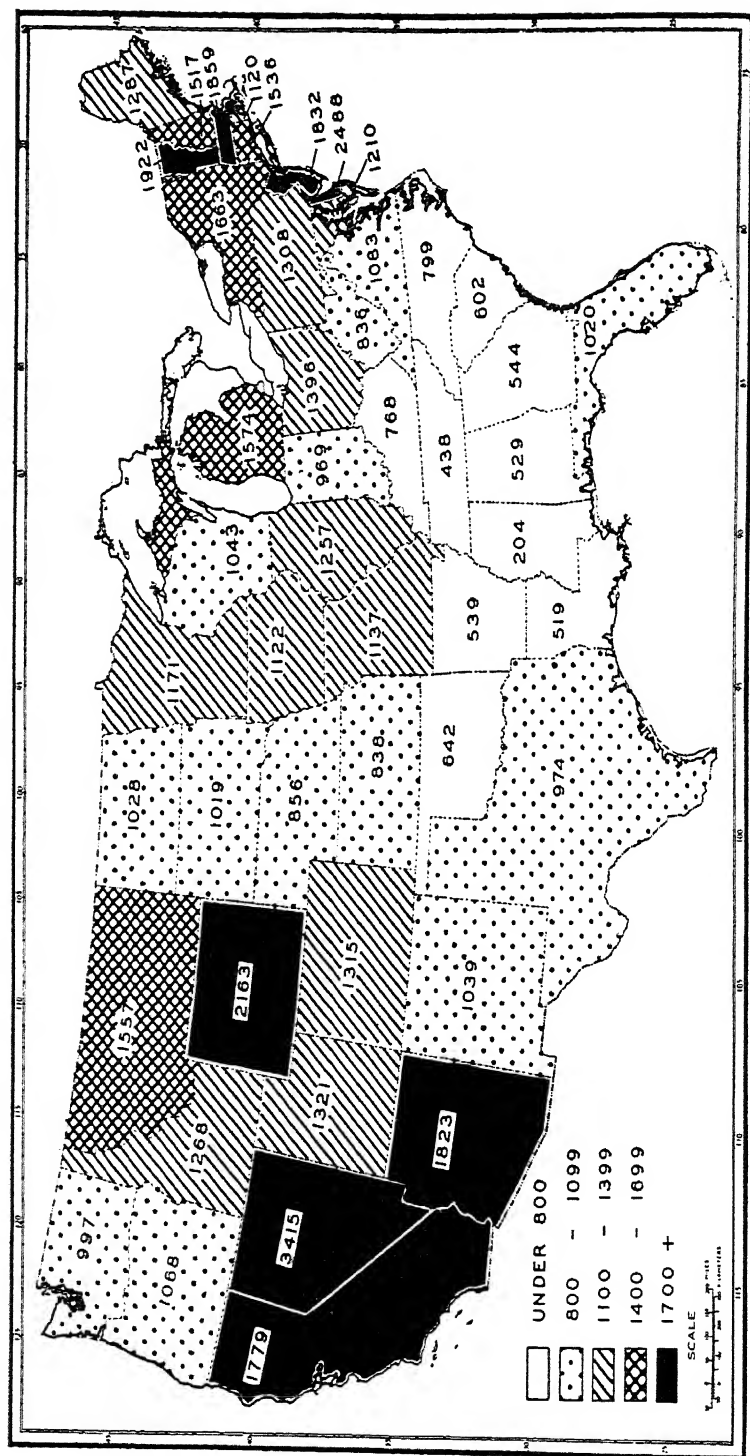


Fig. 65.—Book-of-the-Month Club and Literary Guild subscriptions per 1,000,000 population, 1933-34. Source: Same as for Table 61. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

## DISTRIBUTION OF BOOK CLUB MEMBERS

The pattern of the distribution of the Book-of-the-Month Club and Literary Guild subscribers is portrayed in Table 61 and Figures 65 and 66. The high rank of the Far West and Northeast and the low position occupied by the Southeast and Southwest indicate that these publications are most widely distributed in states which have the best library facilities, and least so in states with the poorest library service. Some exceptions occur. Arizona stands 0.50 units of standard deviation below the mean in library service, and 1.07 above in subscribers of

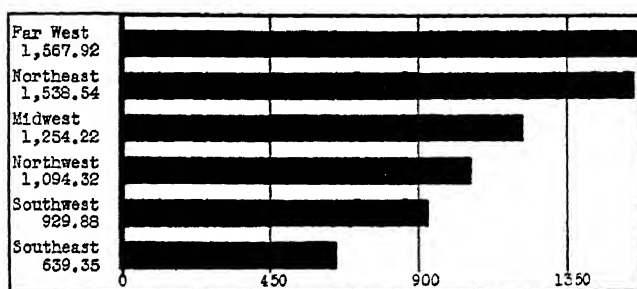


Fig. 66.—Regional summary of Book-of-the-Month Club and Literary Guild subscriptions per 1,000,000 population, 1933-34.

this type. Nevada stands 0.63 above in library service, and 3.88 above in subscribers. Although Nevada had only 311 actual subscriptions in its total population (91,058), it is the highest ranking state when this number is adjusted to population. In thinking of Nevada, in particular, it is well to remember that approximately 95 per cent of its total land area is largely unoccupied, and that it ranks ninth according to the economic index used in chapter xiv.

## DISTRIBUTION OF SUBSCRIPTION BOOKS

One of the largest items in the nation's annual book bill is that which goes for books sold on subscription. In 1933, although that was one of the deepest depression years for the publisher, out of a total bill of \$109,000,000 for all books of all classes, the value of books distributed in this way was \$26,000,-

TABLE 62\*  
PER CENT OF SALES OF FOUR ENCYCLOPEDIAS SOLD BY  
SUBSCRIPTION IN EACH STATE PER 1,000,000  
POPULATION, 1934

State	Rank	Per Cent of Sales	Standard Score
Kansas . . . . .	1	8.91	3.71
Nevada . . . . .	2	6.81	2.32
Florida . . . . .	3	5.59	1.51
Colorado . . . . .	4	5.56	1.49
Delaware . . . . .	5	5.41	1.39
South Dakota . . . . .	6	5.11	1.20
Rhode Island . . . . .	7	4.58	0.85
Arizona . . . . .	8	4.39	0.72
Illinois . . . . .	9	4.37	0.67
Oklahoma . . . . .	10	4.16	0.57
Wisconsin . . . . .	11	4.13	0.55
Missouri . . . . .	12	4.06	0.50
Utah . . . . .	12	4.06	0.50
Texas . . . . .	14	3.97	0.44
New York . . . . .	15	3.89	0.39
Connecticut . . . . .	16	3.76	0.30
North Carolina . . . . .	17	3.74	0.29
California . . . . .	18	3.64	0.22
Montana . . . . .	19	3.57	0.18
Arkansas . . . . .	20	3.51	0.14
Nebraska . . . . .	21	3.36	0.04
North Dakota . . . . .	21	3.36	0.04
Iowa . . . . .	23	3.27	-0.02
Virginia . . . . .	24	3.20	-0.07
Minnesota . . . . .	25	3.12	-0.12
New Mexico . . . . .	26	3.00	-0.20
Michigan . . . . .	27	2.93	-0.24
Pennsylvania . . . . .	28	2.83	-0.31
Maryland . . . . .	29	2.81	-0.32
Washington . . . . .	29	2.81	-0.32
Wyoming . . . . .	31	2.79	-0.34
Louisiana . . . . .	32	2.73	-0.38
Georgia . . . . .	33	2.51	-0.52
Idaho . . . . .	34	2.40	-0.59
Ohio . . . . .	35	2.24	-0.70
New Jersey . . . . .	36	2.21	-0.72
Indiana . . . . .	37	2.20	-0.73
Massachusetts . . . . .	38	2.15	-0.76
Tennessee . . . . .	39	1.99	-0.87
South Carolina . . . . .	40	1.93	-0.90
Alabama . . . . .	41	1.78	-1.00
Kentucky . . . . .	42	1.59	-1.13
West Virginia . . . . .	43	1.58	-1.14
Mississippi . . . . .	44	1.43	-1.24
Oregon . . . . .	45	1.40	-1.25
Maine . . . . .	46	1.20	-1.39
New Hampshire . . . . .	46	1.20	-1.39
Vermont . . . . .	48	1.14	-1.43

\* Source: Adapted from correspondence with representatives of the publishers of *Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia*, *The World Book Encyclopedia*, *Book of Knowledge*, and the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.  
Mean per cent, 3.30, standard deviation, 1.514.

ooo. Data concerning the distribution, by states, of books sold by subscription are not available, but four companies selling encyclopedias by subscription (*Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia*, *The World Book Encyclopedia*, the *Book of Knowledge*, and the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*) have furnished figures showing the per cent of their sales made in each state. These per cents were averaged and adjusted to the population of the respective states. Since the total amount of sales of each company was unknown, the data may not be entirely comparable, and hence should be interpreted accordingly.

To establish a relation between the existence of libraries and the sale of these publications is obviously difficult. Communities with good library facilities may be better markets than those with poor library facilities; or, again, they may be poorer markets. If the latter is true, then the relative high standing of the Northwest, Southwest, and Southeast in the sale of these publications would seem logical. That is, people in these regions might be inclined to buy more encyclopedias because they do not have libraries of which they may make use. However, officials in the companies have expressed the opinion that their sales in any given state seem to depend more upon the efforts exerted by the individual company than upon any other factor. Table 62 and Figures 67 and 68 are offered for whatever aid they may give in arriving at a satisfactory interpretation.

Three further aspects of the book industry may be mentioned in concluding this chapter. These are: (1) the number of population essential to support a bookstore; (2) the lack of books that may be sold at a price sufficiently low to bring them within the range of potential purchasers; and (3) the failure of publishers to develop books which may be read by that part of the population whose facility in reading is limited to the grade school level.

In the discussion of the support of libraries it was pointed out that different writers have set up certain minimum requirements as essential to the provision of adequate library service. Counties without an assessed valuation of \$10,000,000, and with less



than 20,000 population, find the support of county libraries difficult. Mr. Duffus, in commenting on the size of the community necessary to support a bookstore, says:

... according to the National Association of Book Publishers, a town of 20,000 population will support a book business of \$30,000, which with good management will yield a salary of \$3,000 for the proprietor, plus a net profit of 5 per cent. This means, of course, that few towns of less than 20,000 can have a real bookstore, as bookstores are at present conducted, and that even in towns considerably larger than this the bookseller cannot count on more than a modest living.<sup>13</sup>

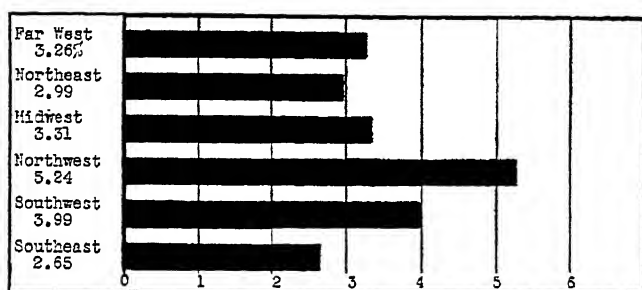


FIG. 68.—Regional summary of per cent of sales of four encyclopedias sold by subscription in each state per 1,000,000 population, 1934.

The probable accuracy of this point of view is supported by the fact reported by Mr. Cheney, that 32,415,588 people in the United States, largely in rural or small city areas, were without bookstores in 1930-31.<sup>14</sup> The concentration of population in these areas was too slight to make the operation of bookstores profitable.

Until about 1930, books that cost less than \$1 were not as common as many people would like to have had them. As yet, this is still true. Both publisher and bookseller are probably equally responsible; but the bookseller may be the more responsible of the two, inasmuch as he has usually considered it not profitable to handle books which sold for less than that amount. The publisher, consequently, being dependent on the bookseller for outlets to the customer, has priced his output accordingly. In recent years, however, the five-and ten-cent stores

<sup>13</sup> Duffus, *op. cit.*, p. 130.

<sup>14</sup> Cheney, *op. cit.*, p. 238.



have achieved considerable success in marketing books at very low cost, and certain series issued by publishers at less than \$1 have proved successful. Both publisher and bookseller have been timid in their approach to this problem, and because books could not be secured at lower prices during the depression, book sales dropped sharply, in contrast with the sales of lower-priced newspapers and magazines.

The effort to provide books which are not beyond the reading ability of a large part (approximately 50 per cent) of the adult population has made considerable progress since 1926. The Committee on Readable Books, appointed from both the American Library Association and the American Association for Adult Education, has carried out several studies to determine reader interest<sup>15</sup> and factors which make for difficulty in reading;<sup>16</sup> and it is now directing its attention to the practical application of these findings by way of the preparation of manuscripts under the direction of the Readability Laboratory of Columbia University. Lists of books which are deemed suitable for readers in this category have been compiled by Felsenthal,<sup>17</sup> Hoit,<sup>18</sup> and Chancellor,<sup>19</sup> and the University of Chicago Press has issued a series of ten pamphlets<sup>20</sup> written particularly with this group in mind. With careful investigation and imaginative experimentation in this field—both largely lacking until recently—it is hoped that a very salutary change in this aspect of the whole publishing and bookselling enterprise may be effected.

<sup>15</sup> Douglas Waples and R. W. Tyler, *What People Want To Read About* (Chicago: American Library Association and University of Chicago Press, 1931).

<sup>16</sup> W. S. Gray and B. E. Leary, *What Makes a Book Readable* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935).

<sup>17</sup> Emma Felsenthal, *Readable Books in Many Subjects* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1929).

<sup>18</sup> Doris Hoit, comp., *Books of General Interest for Today's Readers* (Chicago: American Library Association and the American Association for Adult Education, in cooperation with the U.S. Office of Education, 1934).

<sup>19</sup> John Chancellor, *Available Reading Material for Native-born Adult Illiterates and Near Illiterates* (Washington: U.S. Bureau of Prisons, 1933).

<sup>20</sup> *American Primers* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1934-36).

## CHAPTER IX

### MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS

**B**OOKS, magazines, and newspapers constitute the principal resources of libraries. They have served increasingly from the invention of printing as the media upon which society has mainly relied for the perpetuation and diffusion of knowledge. Their position in this field, though challenged today by the radio and the movie, is still a commanding one. The distribution and accessibility of magazines and newspapers may be presented together with the distribution and accessibility of books.

At the outset, however, it should be noted that the three media exhibit several significant differences. Some of these relate to the range and extent of their production, some to the parts of the population which they serve, and others to their role in libraries.

Mr. Duffus was quoted in chapter viii as saying that newspapers and magazines were heavy lines in our cultural pattern, whereas books, as yet, are but faint tracteries. Both newspapers and magazines, especially newspapers, have become "big business." The wares which they sell are news and advertising and, although both suffered a decline from 1929 to 1933, they were in a sense depression-proof as contrasted with books, and their circulation began to increase in 1934 when circulation of books in libraries began to show a decline. Data concerning their production from 1925 to 1935 is contrasted in Table 63 with that of books and pamphlets.

Newspapers and magazines may not only be considered as big business, but it is generally recognized that they are read by a much greater per cent of the population than are books. Books are read by probably not more than 25 per cent of the reading population. As a matter of fact, only approximately

one-half of the adult population, as shown in the preceding chapter, have attained a sufficiently high level of reading skill to enable them to read with ease and understanding most of the books now published for adults. Mr. Waples, after many years of careful study of the reading behavior of adults, reports

TABLE 63\*  
NUMBER OF COPIES OF BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, MAGAZINES, AND DAILY AND  
SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS PRODUCED IN THE UNITED  
STATES, 1925-35

Publication	1925	1927	1929	1931	1933	1935
<i>Books:</i>						
Number (in thousands) . . . . .	200,997	227,496	214,334	154,462	110,790	140,652
Per 100 population . . . . .	175	193	176	125	88	111
<i>Pamphlets:</i>						
Number (in thousands) . . . . .	232,214	242,879	215,865	216,054	143,487	194,610
Per 100 population . . . . .	202	205	178	174	114	153
<i>Magazines:</i>						
Number . . . . .	4,496	4,659	5,155	4,882	3,459	4,018
Circulation (in thousands) . . . . .	179,281	153,954	201,760	183,519	174,759	178,614
Circulation per 100 population . . . . .	156	130	166	148	139	141
<i>Daily newspapers:</i>						
Number . . . . .	2,116	2,091	2,086	2,044	1,903	2,038
Circulation (in thousands) . . . . .	37,407	41,368	42,015	41,294	37,630	40,871
Circulation per 100 population . . . . .	33	35	35	33	30	32
<i>Sunday newspapers:</i>						
Number . . . . .	597	511	578	555	489	520
Circulation (in thousands) . . . . .	25,630	27,696	29,012	27,453	25,454	28,684
Circulation per 100 circulation . . . . .	22	23	24	22	20	23

\* Source: Compiled from data for the years 1925, 1927, and 1931, as given in U.S. Bur. Census, *Census of Manufactures 1925; 1927; 1931, Printing and Publishing and Allied Industries* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1927; 1930, 1934); and from data for the years 1929, 1933, and 1935 in U.S. Bur. Census, "Census of Manufactures: 1935, Printing and Publishing" (Mimeo release; Industries Nos. 508 and 510; April 14, 1937), pp. 7-9.

that "surveys in predepression years have found at least two magazine readers to one book reader. The ratio of those who read something in some magazine to those who digest any one substantial book is not less than six to one, and probably much larger."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Douglas Waples, *People and Print: Social Aspects of Reading in the Depression* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1937), p. 72.

The book proves too difficult to that part of the population whose reading skill is limited. The magazine, though frequently not essentially less difficult to read than the book, is read much more extensively. The content and interest of the articles, the brevity of statement, the frequent use of illustrations, and, in the case of some of the publications with the largest circulations, the studied simplification of the text, contribute to ease in reading and general popularity. The daily newspaper, including as it does news, editorials, feature stories, sports, financial reports, comics, advertisements, etc., and, in the case of the tabloids, an excess of illustrations, reaches a maximum of approximately 90 per cent of the entire reading population. Miss Fair, in an extensive study of readers interviewed in South Chicago in 1934, found that 8 per cent reported no reading whatever, 17 per cent read books, 50 per cent read magazines, and 90 per cent, newspapers.<sup>2</sup> The popularity of both magazines and newspapers, as contrasted with that of books, is undoubtedly influenced in part by their cheapness and greater availability.

From the point of view of the source from which books, magazines, and newspapers are secured, and of the use—broadly speaking—which patrons of public libraries make of them, the three media are further differentiated. Figure 69, prepared by Mr. Ellsworth and based upon returns from 10,000 readers ten years of age, or older, in South Chicago and St. Louis in 1933-34, indicates by per cent the extent to which different agencies supply books and magazines to patrons in those two cities.<sup>3</sup> The two communities represent highly urbanized manufacturing and residential sections. The role of the public library is distinctive in the case of books, in that the library is shown to supply 44.7 per cent of these, but is comparatively unimpressive in the case of magazines.

<sup>2</sup> E. M. Fair, "The Public Library versus Other Sources of Books" (Unpublished Master's thesis, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1935), p. 10.

<sup>3</sup> R. E. Ellsworth, "The Distribution of Books and Magazines in Selected Communities" (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1937), p. 10.

Figure 70 carries the analysis farther in the distribution of activities engaged in by patrons of the circulation department

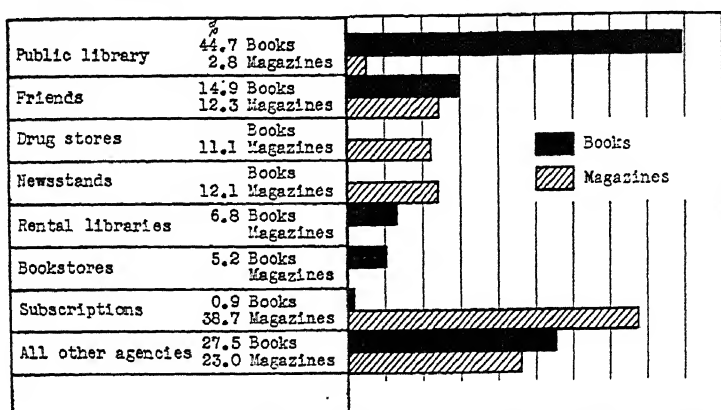


FIG. 69.—Per cent of books and magazines distributed by various agencies, 1933-34.

The graph should be read as follows: "44.7 per cent of all books read were secured from the public library; 14.9 per cent from friends, etc.; 2.8 per cent of all magazines read were secured from the public library; 12.3 per cent from friends, etc." All other agencies include: home, church, club, and school libraries.

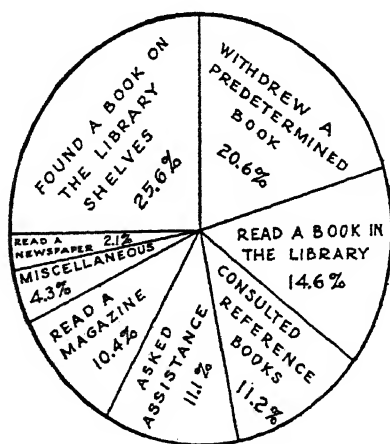


FIG. 70.—Diagram of activities of patrons of circulation department of the New York Public Library, January, 1936.

of the New York Public Library in January, 1936. It was prepared by Mr. Haygood<sup>4</sup> on the basis of over 16,000 returns. If

<sup>4</sup> W. C. Haygood, "Who Uses the Public Library" (MS in Press).

all the patrons' per cents of activities which may have related to books should be combined—as 25.6 per cent for those who found a book on the shelves, 20.6 per cent for those who withdrew a predetermined book, 14.6 per cent for those who read a book in the library, 11.2 per cent for those who consulted reference books, and 11.1 per cent for those who asked for assistance—the resulting total would amount to 83.1 per cent. In

TABLE 64\*  
NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS HELD BY LIBRARIES  
IN 490 CITIES, 1935

POPULATION	AVERAGE NUMBER PER CITY	
	Newspapers	Periodicals
2,500- 5,000 .....	5 7	51 1
5,000- 10,000 .....	7.0	68 7
10,000- 25,000 .....	8 4	109 4
25,000- 50,000 .....	18 6	150.2
50,000-100,000 .....	23 2	248.2
100,000-250,000 .....	36.8	329.8
250,000-500,000 .....	106.0	767 4
500,000 and over .....	147 8	1,851.3
Total cities .....	22 4	218 9

\* U.S. Natl. Resources Com., Natl. Research Com. on Urbanism ["A Study of Communication Facilities"] (MS in preparation), Table 116.

contrast, there is a total of 12.5 per cent for those whose activities relate to periodicals (resulting from 10.4 per cent who read a magazine and 2.1 per cent who read a newspaper), plus the small total of 4.3 per cent for those patrons whose activities were classified as miscellaneous.

The number of magazines and newspapers held by libraries in 490 cities, in 1935, is shown in Table 64. Bound files of such publications serve as a fundamental part of the library's reference material. Undoubtedly, the use of both media varies in different types of libraries. The preservation of such publications, particularly newspapers, will probably be greatly in-

TABLE 65\*  
CIRCULATION OF FORTY-SEVEN NATIONAL MAGAZINES PER  
1,000 POPULATION, 1931

STATE	RANK	CIRCULATION		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 1,000 Population	
Nevada. . . . .	1	47,861	526	1 80
California. . . . .	2	2,951,188	520	1 75
Oregon . . . . .	3	492,814	517	1 73
Vermont. . . . .	4	180,691	502	1 60
Washington. . . . .	5	774,490	495	1 54
Wyoming . . . . .	6	100,776	447	1 12
New Hampshire. . . . .	7	206,835	445	1 11
Connecticut . . . . .	8	698,590	435	1 02
Montana . . . . .	9	229,229	426	0 94
Maine . . . . .	10	334,008	419	0 88
Idaho. . . . .	11	178,643	401	0 73
Colorado. . . . .	12	411,873	398	0 70
Massachusetts . . . . .	13	1,687,182	397	0 69
Ohio. . . . .	14	2,510,089	378	0 53
New York. . . . .	15	4,682,041	372	0 47
Arizona . . . . .	16	160,646	369	0 45
Florida . . . . .	17	533,288	363	0 40
Iowa. . . . .	18	868,651	352	0 30
Illinois. . . . .	19	2,662,681	349	0 28
Michigan. . . . .	19	1,691,407	349	0 28
Minnesota. . . . .	21	893,403	348	0 27
Rhode Island . . . . .	22	237,579	346	0 25
Delaware. . . . .	23	82,088	344	0 23
New Jersey. . . . .	24	1,367,392	338	0 18
Nebraska. . . . .	25	461,606	335	0 16
Indiana. . . . .	26	1,080,921	334	0 15
Utah . . . . .	27	164,005	323	0 05
Pennsylvania . . . . .	28	3,082,511	320	0 03
Kansas . . . . .	29	581,980	309	-0 07
Wisconsin . . . . .	30	895,448	305	-0 10
South Dakota . . . . .	31	202,676	293	-0 21
Missouri . . . . .	32	1,035,420	285	-0 28
Maryland. . . . .	33	438,113	269	-0 41
North Dakota . . . . .	34	173,239	254	-0 54
West Virginia. . . . .	35	402,275	233	-0 73
New Mexico. . . . .	36	97,600	231	-0 74
Texas. . . . .	37	1,309,951	225	-0 79
Oklahoma. . . . .	38	531,121	222	-0 82
Virginia. . . . .	39	493,943	204	-0 98
Tennessee . . . . .	40	455,835	174	-1 23
Kentucky. . . . .	41	433,162	166	-1 30
Louisiana. . . . .	42	316,172	150	-1 44
Georgia . . . . .	43	409,395	141	-1 52
North Carolina . . . . .	44	439,032	138	-1 55
Arkansas . . . . .	45	252,624	136	-1 56
Alabama. . . . .	46	327,299	124	-1 67
South Carolina. . . . .	47	197,498	114	-1 75
Mississippi. . . . .	48	202,840	101	-1 87

\* Source: Adapted from data reported in the "International Yearbook Number," *Editor and Publisher*, LXIV (January 30, 1932), 116.  
Mean per 1,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 317; standard deviation, 115.8; U.S. total, 38,278,745; U.S. circulation per 1,000 population (including District of Columbia), 312.

creased in the future by the use of films, which will insure longer life and reduced costs.

Two other facts concerning the data regarding these two media of communication of ideas should be noted. First of all, they are very accessible. Inasmuch as both types of publication usually carry advertisements, it is necessary that they maintain accurate records of their distribution. This they do through either the Audit Bureau of Circulations Company, which makes audits semi-annually for many magazines and most daily newspapers, or through special analyses prepared by the magazines themselves. In the latter instances the analyses are frequently elaborate and break the circulation down by states, counties, cities, and even different sections in cities. The analyses are also divided between subscription and newsstand sales and are full in all respects. The distribution of magazines and newspapers, consequently, can be studied in detail. Through these analyses the variation in distribution among counties in a given state can be vividly portrayed, since the number of copies received by each county or incorporated community within a county is usually indicated.

In the second place, the data bear upon the question whether magazines and newspapers play compensating roles in those communities in which libraries are lacking. The country weekly and the farm journal seem to afford such a compensating service. At least, they are to be found more frequently in rural areas than are magazines and dailies, although the latter are not found in greater number in those communities where libraries are poor; on the contrary, the general pattern of their distribution is very similar to that of libraries.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF MAGAZINES

Table 65 and Figures 71 and 72 show the combined circulation of a single issue of each of forty-seven leading magazines in each state, adjusted to population in 1931. The range is from more than one magazine for every two inhabitants in Nevada,



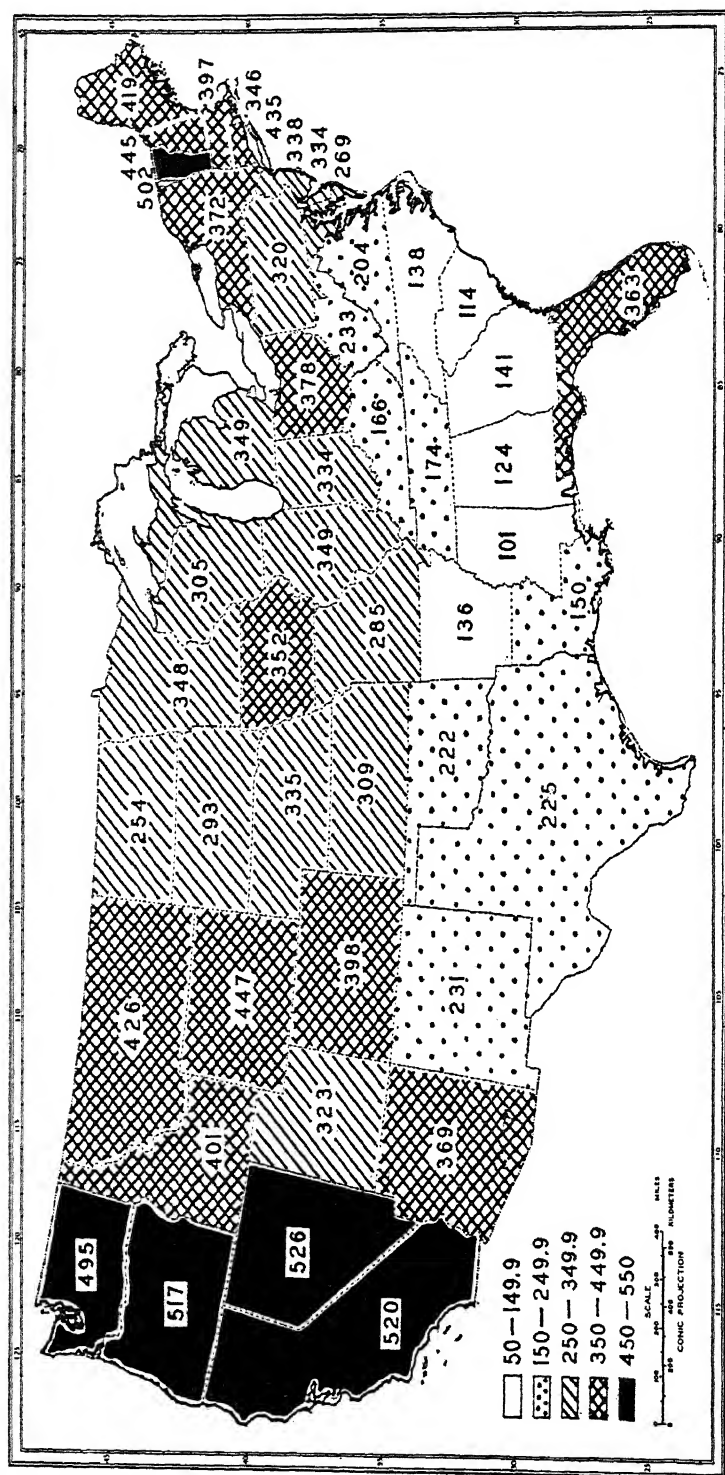


FIG. 71.—Circulation of forty-seven national magazines per 1,000 population, 1931. Source: Same as for Table 65. (Goode Base Map No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

California, Oregon, and Vermont to one for every ten in Mississippi. If these data for combined magazine circulation are reliable as an index of magazine reading in the various states, it is clear that magazines do not supplement libraries spatially. Those states in which libraries are most highly developed also tend to buy the most magazines, and the residents of the states with underdeveloped libraries buy fewest magazines. If Figure 71, showing the distribution of magazines, is compared with the map showing the index of library development for public libraries in 1934 (Fig. 50), a considerable degree of correlation

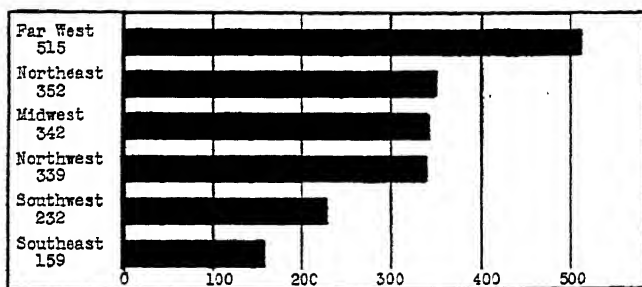


FIG. 72.—Regional summary of circulation of forty-seven national magazines per 1,000 population, 1931.

becomes evident. Seventeen states are in the same interval on both maps, while twenty-five vary only one interval. Rhode Island and New Jersey rank two intervals higher with respect to the library index than in magazine purchases, while Arizona, Florida, Idaho, and North Dakota rank two intervals higher in magazine circulation. In these six states it may be that magazines and library books do supplement one another to some extent as sources of ideas, information, and recreation. In the other forty-two states no evidence of such supplementary action may be derived from the two maps under consideration.

If Figure 71 were made strictly comparable with Figure 50, by basing both on standard scores and making the intervals the same, twenty-two states would be in the same interval, while twenty-two would vary only one interval. However, four states would still vary two intervals. Florida's standard score, for ex-

TABLE 66\*  
CIRCULATION OF FORTY-TWO FARM PUBLICATIONS PER  
1,000 POPULATION, 1928

STATE	RANK	CIRCULATION		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 1,000 Population	
Iowa . . . . .	1	821,648	332.52	2.75
North Dakota . . . . .	2	218,610	321.09	2.60
South Dakota . . . . .	3	212,998	307.42	2.42
Nebraska . . . . .	4	420,311	305.02	2.39
Kansas . . . . .	5	474,260	252.13	1.69
Montana . . . . .	6	108,290	201.43	1.02
Minnesota . . . . .	7	501,604	195.64	0.95
Idaho . . . . .	8	86,590	194.57	0.93
Wisconsin . . . . .	9	569,136	193.65	0.92
Vermont . . . . .	10	65,514	182.18	0.77
Indiana . . . . .	11	538,645	166.33	0.56
Wyoming . . . . .	12	36,259	160.75	0.49
Missouri . . . . .	13	574,044	158.17	0.45
Oklahoma . . . . .	14	355,203	148.25	0.32
Maine . . . . .	15	105,079	131.77	0.10
Oregon . . . . .	16	112,134	117.57	-0.08
New Hampshire . . . . .	17	54,343	116.79	-0.10
Colorado . . . . .	18	120,174	116.02	-0.11
Virginia . . . . .	19	278,856	115.14	-0.12
Michigan . . . . .	20	526,411	108.71	-0.20
Arkansas . . . . .	21	200,560	108.15	-0.21
Illinois . . . . .	22	817,544	107.14	-0.22
Ohio . . . . .	23	709,861	106.80	-0.23
North Carolina . . . . .	24	332,852	104.99	-0.25
Mississippi . . . . .	25	209,512	104.24	-0.26
Washington . . . . .	26	157,216	100.56	-0.31
Texas . . . . .	27	570,717	97.98	-0.34
Utah . . . . .	28	48,068	94.65	-0.38
Kentucky . . . . .	29	235,869	90.21	-0.45
Nevada . . . . .	30	8,097	88.92	-0.46
West Virginia . . . . .	31	151,461	87.58	-0.48
Alabama . . . . .	32	227,868	86.11	-0.50
Tennessee . . . . .	33	221,071	84.49	-0.52
Georgia . . . . .	34	238,751	82.09	-0.55
South Carolina . . . . .	35	142,573	82.00	-0.55
Delaware . . . . .	36	19,229	80.67	-0.57
Pennsylvania . . . . .	37	634,531	65.88	-0.77
Florida . . . . .	38	91,797	62.52	-0.81
Maryland . . . . .	39	99,827	61.18	-0.83
New Mexico . . . . .	40	25,658	60.61	-0.84
Louisiana . . . . .	41	120,797	57.48	-0.88
Connecticut . . . . .	42	85,744	53.36	-0.93
New York . . . . .	43	664,066	52.75	-0.94
California . . . . .	44	295,346	52.02	-0.95
Arizona . . . . .	45	21,892	50.26	-0.97
New Jersey . . . . .	46	158,241	39.16	-1.12
Massachusetts . . . . .	47	154,737	36.41	-1.16
Rhode Island . . . . .	48	18,873	27.45	-1.27

\* Source: Meredith Pub. Co., *Circulation of Farm Publications by States and Counties*: Suppl. to U.S. Bur. For. and Dom. Comm., *Market Data Handbook of United States*, Dom. Ser., No. 30 (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1929), p. 5.

Mean per 1,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 123.98; standard deviation, 75.703; U.S. median for 48 states, 104.62; U.S. total, 12,849,126; U.S. circulation per 1,000 population (including District of Columbia), 104.66.

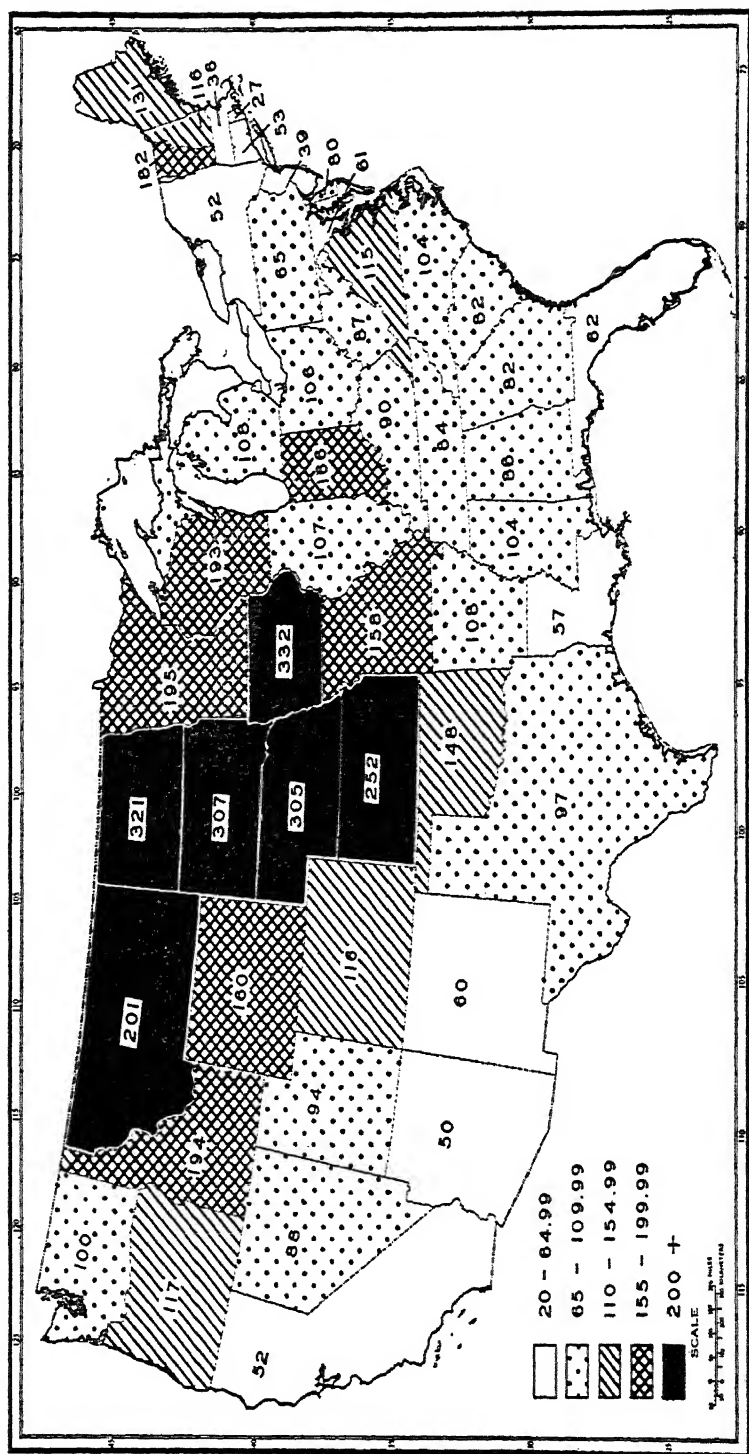


FIG. 73.—Circulation of forty-two farm publications per 1,000 population, 1928. Source: Same as for Table 66. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

ample, with respect to libraries is  $-0.82$ , and with respect to magazines,  $0.40$ . Her winter visitors, very likely, account for the relatively high magazine purchases, but they do not contribute greatly to permanent library development.

Later data could be substituted for those which appear in Table 65. It seems desirable to use those for 1931, however, as they more nearly represent the general pattern of distribution that prevailed in the late 1920's and early 1930's, before the worst effects of the depression were felt. While the number of copies of magazines published during the depression did not drop so much as did library support and book production, there was a decline. The total number of copies of magazines published at two-year intervals, 1929-35, exhibiting this decline has already been shown in Table 63.

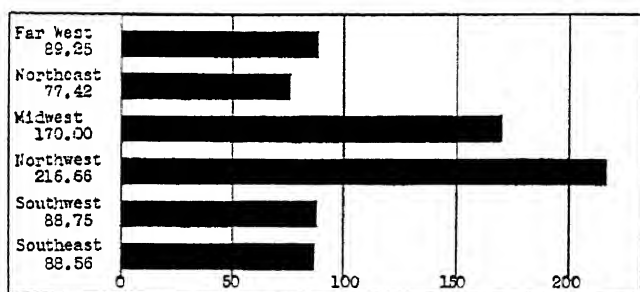


FIG. 74.—Regional summary of circulation of forty-two farm publications per 1,000 population, 1928.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF FARM PUBLICATIONS

Since Tables 63, 64, and 65 did not include statistics of circulation for any farm periodicals, and since data combining both general and farm publications would be difficult to interpret, Table 66 and Figures 73 and 74 are presented showing the combined circulation of forty-two farm publications in 1928. A definite negative relationship seems to exist between the circulation of farm journals and the circulation of general magazines, and between the distribution of farm periodicals and library development. In other words, farm publications go where li-

TABLE 67\*  
CIRCULATION OF 1,923 DAILY NEWSPAPERS PER 1,000  
POPULATION, 1931

STATE	RANK	CIRCULATION		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 1,000 Population	
Massachusetts	1	2,395,233	563.6	2.66
New York	2	7,073,616	561.9	2.65
Missouri	3	1,625,951	448.0	1.68
Illinois	4	3,152,081	413.1	1.39
California	5	2,315,797	407.9	1.35
Washington	6	636,258	407.0	1.34
Oregon	7	378,396	396.7	1.25
Ohio	8	2,489,438	374.5	1.06
Maryland	9	579,525	355.2	0.90
Pennsylvania	10	3,406,749	353.7	0.89
Rhode Island	11	226,895	330.0	0.69
Indiana	12	1,047,729	323.5	0.63
Nevada	13	28,099	308.6	0.51
Iowa	14	756,960	306.3	0.49
Michigan	15	1,462,012	301.9	0.45
Minnesota	16	766,158	298.8	0.42
Colorado	17	300,626	290.2	0.35
Connecticut	18	461,202	287.0	0.32
Nebraska	19	364,828	264.8	0.14
Utah	20	129,200	254.4	0.05
Tennessee	21	661,137	252.7	0.03
Wisconsin	22	723,106	246.0	-0.02
Maine	23	194,199	243.5	-0.04
Oklahoma	24	583,291	243.4	-0.04
Florida	25	351,869	239.7	-0.08
Kansas	26	431,536	229.4	-0.16
Delaware	27	53,882	226.0	-0.19
Texas	28	1,287,060	221.0	-0.23
New Jersey	29	839,948	207.8	-0.35
Arizona	30	84,998	195.1	-0.45
Montana	31	93,963	174.8	-0.62
Vermont	32	61,666	171.5	-0.65
Idaho	33	76,072	170.9	-0.66
Louisiana	34	352,661	167.8	-0.68
Virginia	35	391,103	161.5	-0.74
Kentucky	36	419,894	160.6	-0.74
West Virginia	37	258,653	149.6	-0.84
Georgia	38	424,097	145.8	-0.87
New Hampshire	39	66,757	143.5	-0.89
South Dakota	40	92,372	133.3	-0.98
New Mexico	41	55,583	131.3	-0.99
Alabama	42	342,013	129.2	-1.01
North Carolina	43	344,266	108.6	-1.18
North Dakota	44	72,929	107.1	-1.20
Wyoming	45	23,125	102.5	-1.24
South Carolina	46	149,595	86.0	-1.38
Arkansas	47	153,341	82.7	-1.40
Mississippi	48	116,939	58.2	-1.61

\* Source: "International Yearbook Number," *Editor and Publisher*, LXIV (January 30, 1932), 114.  
Mean per 1,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 248.68; standard deviation, 118.35; U.S. total, 38,761,187; U.S. mean per 1,000 population (including District of Columbia), 315.71.

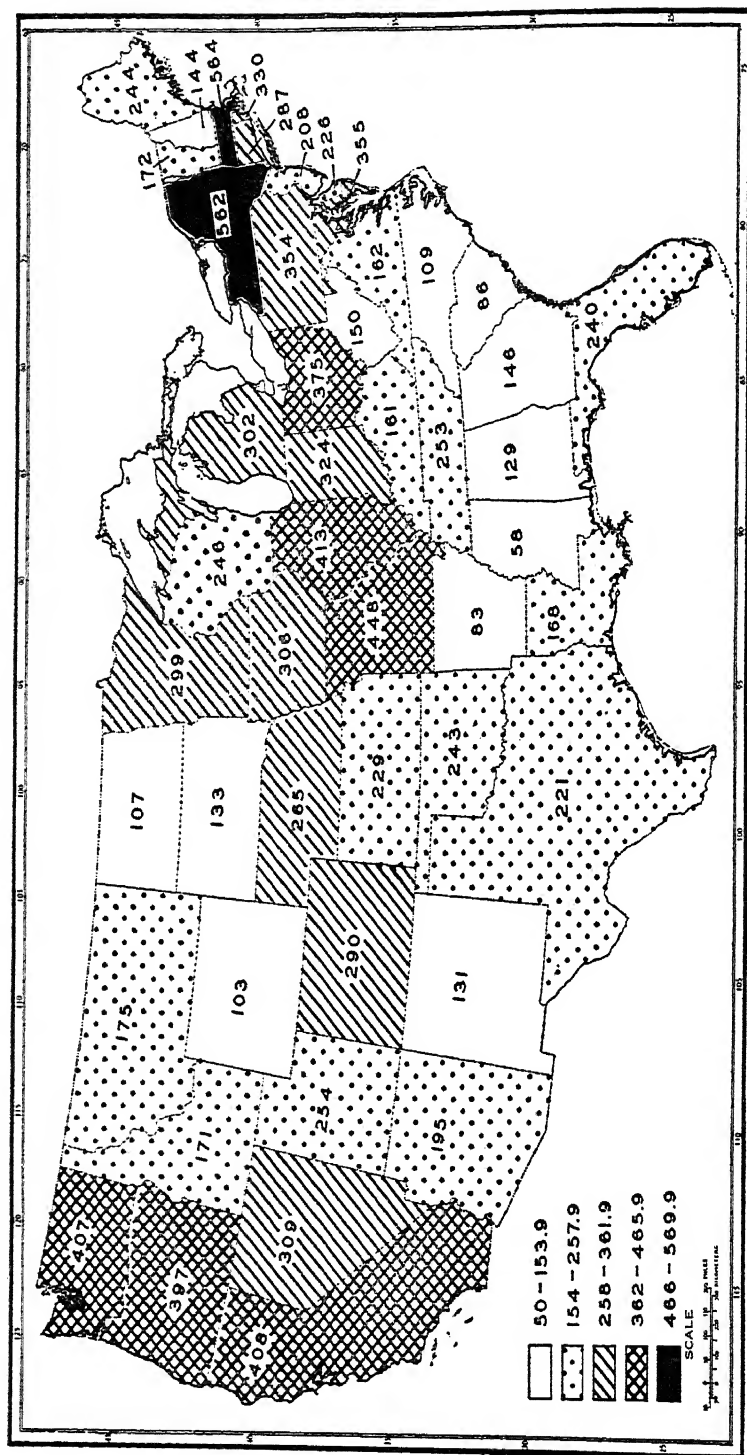


FIG. 75.—Circulation of 1,923 daily newspapers per 1,000 population, 1931. Source: Same as for Table 67. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

brary facilities do not, unless library service is developed on a county-wide basis. This is to be expected, in the light of the lack of library facilities in those regions where the most potential readers of farm periodicals live. The widest variation between the two maps (Figures 71 and 73) will be seen to be in the relatively urban states.

Further analysis of magazines into subclasses fails to bring to light any marked differences from the pattern presented by general magazines, except that magazines of opinion and criticism are found to have a comparatively more extensive circulation in the Northeast and the Far West, whereas magazines of the more popular type rank comparatively higher in the Southeast.

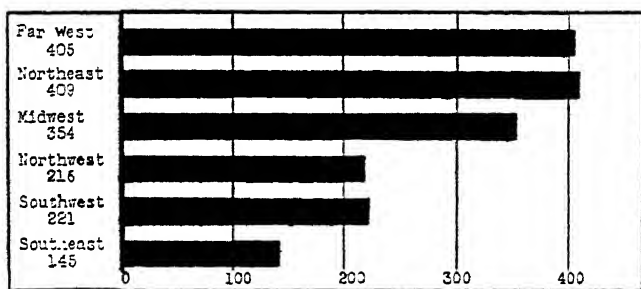


FIG. 76.—Regional summary of circulation of 1,923 daily newspapers per 1,000 population, 1931.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSPAPERS

Three general types of newspapers may be noted: the daily, including morning and evening dailies and Sunday issues; the foreign-language dailies; and the weekly, semiweekly, and tri-weekly rural papers. The first two types are to be found principally in the large cities, the latter, in the smaller cities and country towns. In 1935, there were 1,934 dailies, 124 foreign-language dailies, and 10,027 weeklies, *et al.*

The pattern of daily newspaper circulation, as pictured in Table 67 and Figures 75 and 76, varies interestingly from the pattern of magazine circulation. The great urban newspaper extends beyond the metropolitan area in which it is created.



Its influence is clearly discernible in Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Illinois, and Missouri, where major newspapers serve not only the immediate populations of the cities in which they are located but the adjoining areas and the nation at large. There is also a tendency for library development, magazine circulation, and newspaper circulation to show a considerable degree of correlation, though the newspaper pattern differs somewhat from the other two. In spite of the fact that the great metro-

TABLE 68\*

NUMBER AND CIRCULATION OF DAILY AND SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS  
(ENGLISH LANGUAGE) IN THE UNITED STATES, 1920-35

YEAR	DAILY NEWSPAPERS		SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS	
	Number	Circulation	Number	Circulation
1920 . . . . .	2,042	27,790,656	522	17,083,604
1925 . . . . .	2,008	33,739,369	548	23,354,622
1930 . . . . .	1,942	39,589,172	521	26,413,047
1931 . . . . .	1,923	38,761,187	513	25,701,798
1932 . . . . .	1,913	36,407,689	518	24,859,888
1933 . . . . .	1,911	35,175,238	506	24,040,630
1934 . . . . .	1,929	36,709,010	505	26,544,516
1935 . . . . .	1,950	38,155,540	518	28,147,343

\* Source: Data for 1925 from "International Yearbook Number," *Editor and Publisher*, LXV (Jan. 28, 1933), 98; data for 1930, 1931, and 1932 from p. 101; data for 1933, 1934, and 1935 from LXIX (Jan. 25, 1936), 124.

*Ayer* figures are not used here, since they give only annual *estimates* of circulation, including Canadian dailies, without separate figures for Canada.

politan daily tends to transcend local, state, and regional boundaries, its distribution is less national than is that of the magazine or the library. This correspondence on the part of all three is evidenced in the far western states, New York, Massachusetts, the Dakotas, Ohio, and the southern states. States in which negative correlation seems to be indicated (or where one factor supplements one or more of the others) are: Wisconsin, Wyoming, Missouri, and several of the New England states. One aspect of the variation in the circulation pattern of library books and daily newspapers in large cities is that, whereas the per cent of registrants and per capita circulation in libraries

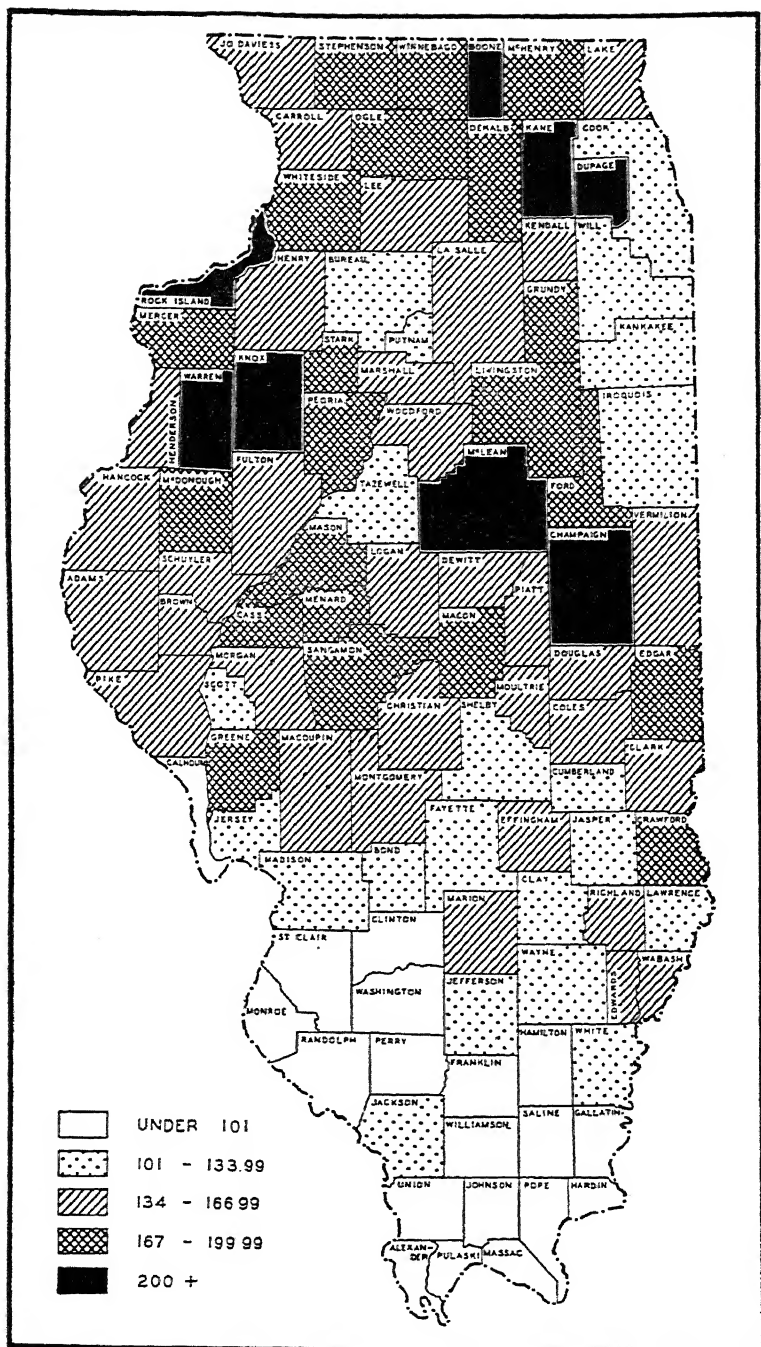


FIG. 77.—Circulation of Curtis and Crowell magazines, Illinois, per 1,000 population, 1933. Source: Curtis Publishing Company, *Sales Opportunities, 1934-1935* (Philadelphia: Curtis Publishing Company, 1934); Crowell Publishing Company, *Crowell Circulations, 1934* (New York: Crowell Publishing Company, [1934]).

tend to decline in relation to the increase in size of population, exactly the opposite happens in the case of the per cent of the population who are newspaper readers and in the number of copies read per capita. In the case of the newspaper, the larger the city, the higher are both per cents. The distribution of the country weekly newspapers, when mapped, exhibits a pattern somewhat similar to that of farm magazines. They are found in the small towns and rural areas. With these exceptions, however, it is evident that both libraries and newspaper coverage are best developed in urban areas.

#### VARIATIONS WITHIN A STATE

Variations in distribution among counties within a given state show the same tendencies as variations among states. Figures 77-80 show the relative status of the counties of Illinois with respect to magazine and daily newspaper circulation. As in the case of the forty-eight states, there seems to be some degree of correlation between the distribution of library facilities indicated both by the library index and by the circulation of daily newspapers and general magazines. The differences in the development of library resources in the northern and southern halves of the state are clearly discernible, and individual counties tend, for the most part, to rank approximately the same on all three maps. In general, the counties which rank low in library development also rank relatively low in the number of general magazines and daily newspapers which they buy. However, the tendency is obviously less marked than it is in the case of the forty-eight states.

Table 69 concretely illustrates the relationships which exist in fifteen Illinois counties between the development of libraries, on the one hand, and the distribution of magazines and newspapers, on the other. In six of the fifteen cases, the plus or minus signs—meaning above or below the mean—agree in the first three columns, showing all six to be consistently above, or below, the average with respect to libraries, magazines, and daily newspapers. In two others, which did not enter into the

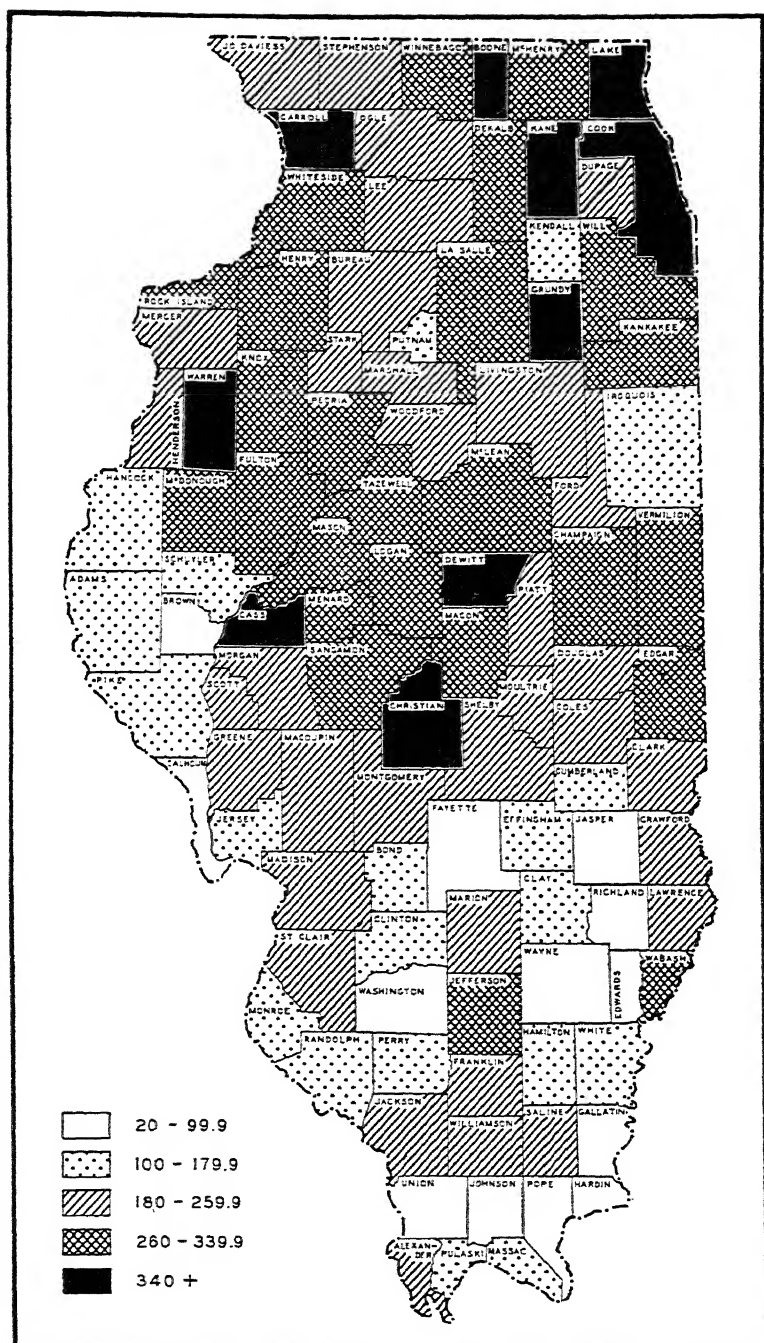


FIG. 78.—Circulation of A.B.C. daily newspapers, Illinois, per 1,000 population, 1927. Source: Adapted from U.S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, *Market Data Handbook of United States*, Domestic Commerce Series, No. 30 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1929), pp. 37-39.

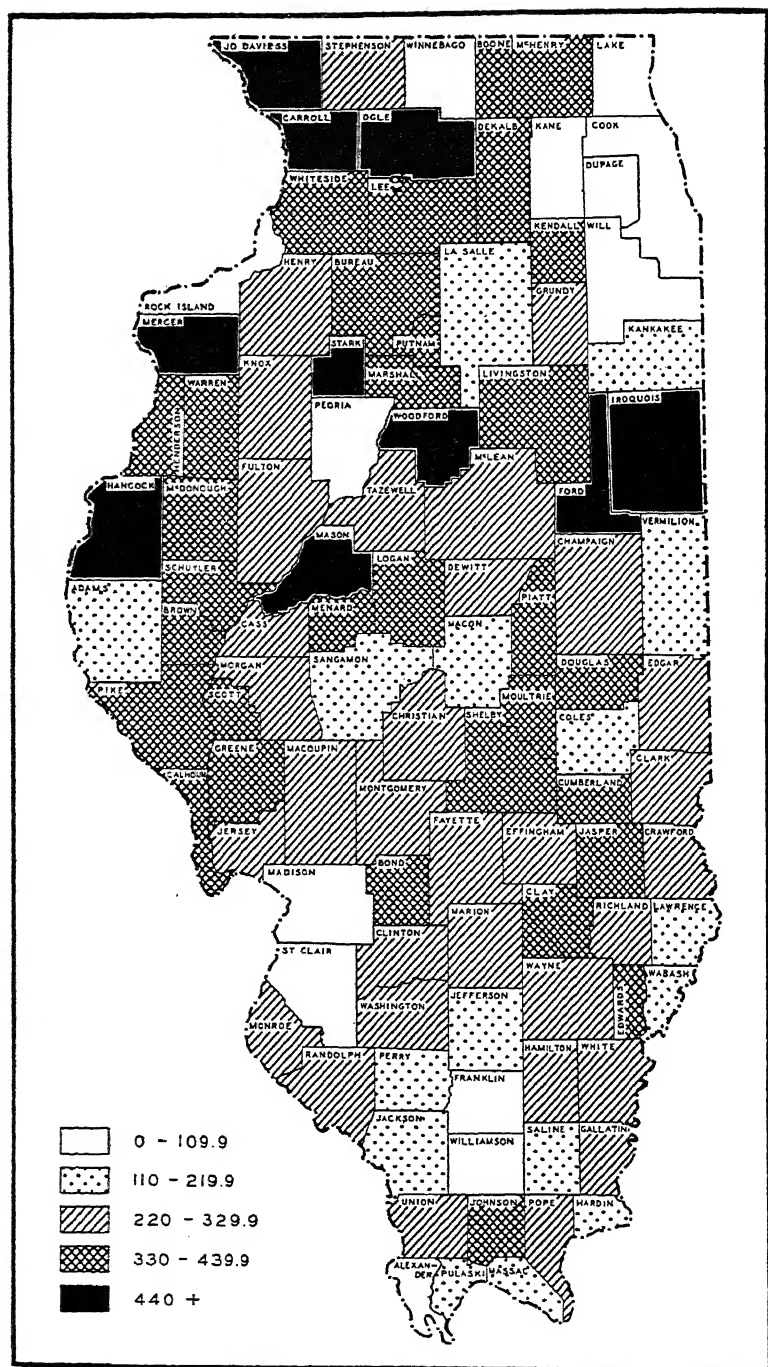


FIG. 79.—Circulation of forty-two farm publications, Illinois, per 1,000 population, 1928. Source: Meredith Publishing Company, *Circulation of Farm Publications by States and Counties* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1929), pp. 12-13.

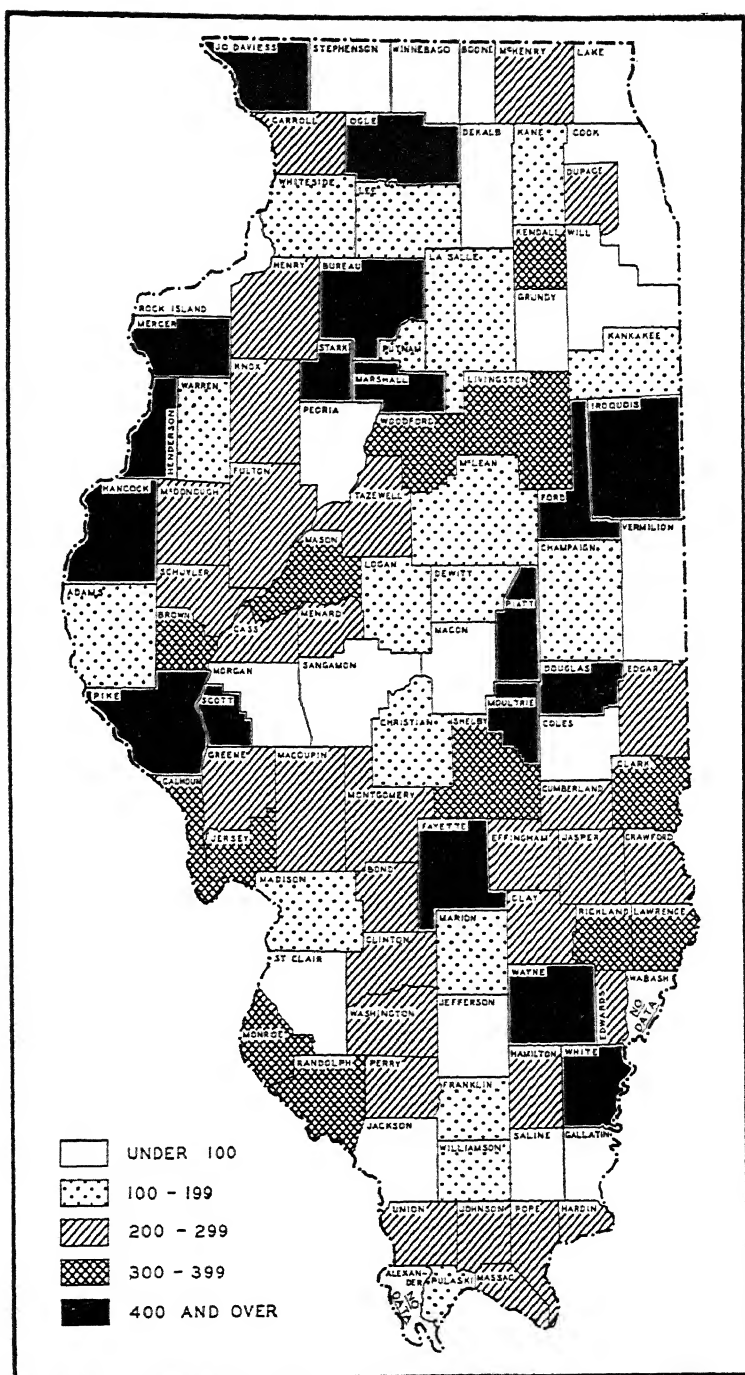


FIG. 80.—Circulation of weekly, semiweekly and triweekly newspapers, Illinois, per 1,000 population, 1927. Source: U.S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, *Market Data Handbook of United States*, pp. 37-39.

computation of the library index, the same trend is evident. Champaign County may be taken as an example of this type of relationship. It rates relatively high with respect to libraries, magazine circulation, and newspaper circulation, but relatively low in circulation of farm magazines and weekly newspapers. Again, Bureau County ranks below the av-

TABLE 69\*

FIFTEEN COUNTIES IN ILLINOIS COMPARED WITH RESPECT TO LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT AND NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE CIRCULATION

COUNTIES	LIBRARY INDEX	CIRCULATION INDEX			
		General Magazines	Daily Newspapers	Farm Publications	Weekly Newspapers
Adams . . . . .	0.55	0 01	-0 62	-0 89	-0 62
Alexander... . .	1.37	-1 05	-0.32	-1 77	.....
Bond... . .	-1.07	-0 49	-1.10	0 54	0 09
Boone... . .	-0.05	1 32	1.76	0 77	-1 27
Brown . . . . .	0.26	0 26	-1.29	0 96	0 77
Bureau . . . . .	-0 30	-0.24	-0.20	0 88	2 03
Calhoun . . . . .	None†	-1.09	-1.31	0 60	0 25
Carroll . . . . .	0.57	0 33	1.72	1.81	0 07
Cass... . .	-0.50	0.86	1.86	0 06	-0 30
Champaign . . . .	0.84	2.23	1.19	-0 27	-0 93
Christian. . . . .	-0.49	0 01	1.32	-0 24	-0 66
Clark... . .	-1 15	0 36	-0.19	0 30	0 61
Clay... . .	-1.45	-0.49	-1.23	0 43	0 01
Clinton... . .	None†	-1.70	-1.18	-0 47	0 18
Coles. . . . .	0 21	0.37	0.38	-0 69	-0 97

\* Source: Table 51, Meredith Pub. Co., *op. cit.*, p. 12; U.S. Bur. For. and Dom. Comm., *Market Data Handbook of United States*, p. 37.

† This county was not included in the computation of the library index.

erage in the first three columns and comparatively high in the last two. This general relationship may be considered as typical, though by no means universal. In some cases, counties show a relationship similar to that exemplified by Clinton County, which ranks below average in all but weekly newspapers, and only slightly above in that; or like Alexander County, in which, of those listed, library service seems to be relatively the best developed source of reading materials. Carroll County, above average in all five columns, represents still another variation.

Although different types of these variations are to be found, it is clear that the type represented by Champaign and Coles counties is more common than any other. Thus it can safely be said that, while the circulation of magazines and daily newspapers tends to agree with library development, the reading of farm journals and weekly newspapers tends to be related to it negatively.

#### SUMMARY

The evidence cited in this chapter, and in those preceding, points conclusively to the fact that libraries, bookstores, rental libraries, magazines, and daily newspapers follow the same general pattern of distribution throughout the nation. The distributions of daily newspapers show less conformity to type than do the others, and the farm journal and the weekly newspaper present an almost exactly opposite pattern. Evidence introduced from the study by Mr. Ellsworth also emphasizes the important role which the public library plays as a source from which books are procured by the general public. In the case of magazines and newspapers, this role is comparatively negligible; but in the case of books, it exceeds that played by the bookstore, the rental library, loans from friends, or any other source.<sup>5</sup> Further evidence to this effect was furnished by a study of our contemporary American culture, which says that "reading in general, outside of Bibles and school books, means reading the public library books";<sup>6</sup> and to this Miss Mac Cracken adds her statement, that "where public libraries have inadequate resources, or where they do not serve people, there is no evidence that other sources are adequately supplying the people with books."<sup>7</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Ellsworth, *op. cit.*, p. 10.

<sup>6</sup> R. S. Lynd and H. M. Lynd, *Middletown: A Study in Contemporary American Culture* (New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1929), p. 230.

<sup>7</sup> Maisry Mac Cracken, *Library Needs in Dutchess County, New York* (The Norrie Fellowship Report, 1933-35; Poughkeepsie, N.Y.: The Women's City and County Club, and Vassar College, 1937), p. 71.



## CHAPTER X

### COMMUNICATION FACILITIES

TWO of the most significant aspects of American life are the extent to which American people have become increasingly a nation of city dwellers, and the technological resourcefulness which they have displayed in perfecting the means of communication and transportation upon which city life depends. In 1930, 56.71 per cent of the total population lived in cities, and 96 metropolitan areas contained 44.6 per cent of the population. Since 1870 or 1880, except for the depression years, 1930-32, the per cent has steadily risen, and since 1933 the drift to the city has again become greater than the drift back to the farm.<sup>1</sup> As this concentration of population has become greater and greater, the necessity of providing essential means of communication and transportation has likewise increased. The postal service, telegraph, telephone, radio, and motion picture, like libraries, bookstores, magazines, and newspapers, have tremendously multiplied the opportunities for the communication of ideas, while the railroad, streetcar, hard-surfaced road, automobile, bus, and airplane have completely covered the country with their amazingly extensive network of facilities for both transportation and communication.

It is not the purpose of this study to attempt to describe in detail the extent and character of these agencies. This has already been done in such studies as *Recent Social Trends in the United States*<sup>2</sup> and the individual monographs which grew out of that study; other extensive studies now under way in urbanization, communication, and recreation will further serve this

<sup>1</sup> U.S. National Resources Committee, Research Committee on Urbanism ["A Study of Communication Facilities"] (MS in preparation).

<sup>2</sup> President's Research Committee on Social Trends, *Recent Social Trends in the United States* (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1933).

TABLE 70\*  
RESIDENCE TELEPHONES PER 100 POPULATION, 1932

STATE	RANK	TELEPHONES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100 Population	
Iowa....	1	380,463	15 40	1.91
California....	2	791,091	13 93	1.51
Kansas....	3	257,154	13 67	1.44
Nebraska....	4	184,404	13.38	1.36
Minnesota....	5	323,495	12.62	1.15
Illinois....	5	962,896	12 62	1.15
Massachusetts....	7	530,168	12 48	1.12
Connecticut....	8	200,213	12 46	1.11
New Hampshire....	9	57,174	12.29	1.06
Vermont....	10	42,794	11 90	0.96
Wisconsin....	11	338,009	11 50	0.85
Missouri....	12	408,152	11 25	0.78
Washington....	13	175,657	11 24	0.78
New York....	14	1,413,982	11 23	0.78
Maine....	15	87,972	11 03	0.72
Oregon....	16	104,278	10 93	0.70
Colorado....	17	112,991	10 91	0.69
Rhode Island....	18	70,792	10 30	0.52
Nevada....	19	9,239	10 15	0.48
Indiana....	20	324,163	10 01	0.45
Ohio....	21	659,841	9 93	0.42
New Jersey....	22	400,367	9 91	0.42
South Dakota....	23	67,930	9.80	0.39
Pennsylvania....	24	833,971	8 66	0.08
Delaware....	25	19,592	8.22	-0.04
Michigan....	26	396,466	8 19	-0.05
Maryland....	27	130,876	8.02	-0.09
Wyoming....	28	17,705	7 85	-0.14
Utah....	29	37,802	7.44	-0.25
Idaho....	30	32,104	7.21	-0.31
North Dakota....	31	48,948	7.19	-0.32
Oklahoma....	32	160,061	6.68	-0.46
Montana....	33	34,294	6 38	-0.54
Texas....	34	346,366	5.95	-0.66
Virginia....	35	134,338	5 55	-0.77
West Virginia....	36	90,274	5.22	-0.85
Kentucky....	37	134,058	5.13	-0.88
Tennessee....	38	128,767	4.92	-0.94
Florida....	39	66,423	4.52	-1.04
Arizona....	40	18,407	4.22	-1.13
Louisiana....	41	75,288	3.58	-1.30
Georgia....	42	88,859	3.06	-1.44
Arkansas....	43	55,040	2.97	-1.47
New Mexico....	44	12,369	2.92	-1.48
North Carolina....	45	87,448	2 76	-1.52
Alabama....	46	61,459	2.32	-1.64
South Carolina....	47	33,996	1.96	-1.74
Mississippi....	48	38,957	1.94	-1.74

\* Source: U. S. Bur. Census, *Census of Electrical Industries: 1932, Telephones and Telegraphs* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1934), p. 6.

Mean per 100 population (based on means of the 48 states), 8.37; standard deviation, 3.68, U.S. total, 11,089,946; U.S. residence telephones per 100 population (including District of Columbia), 9.03.

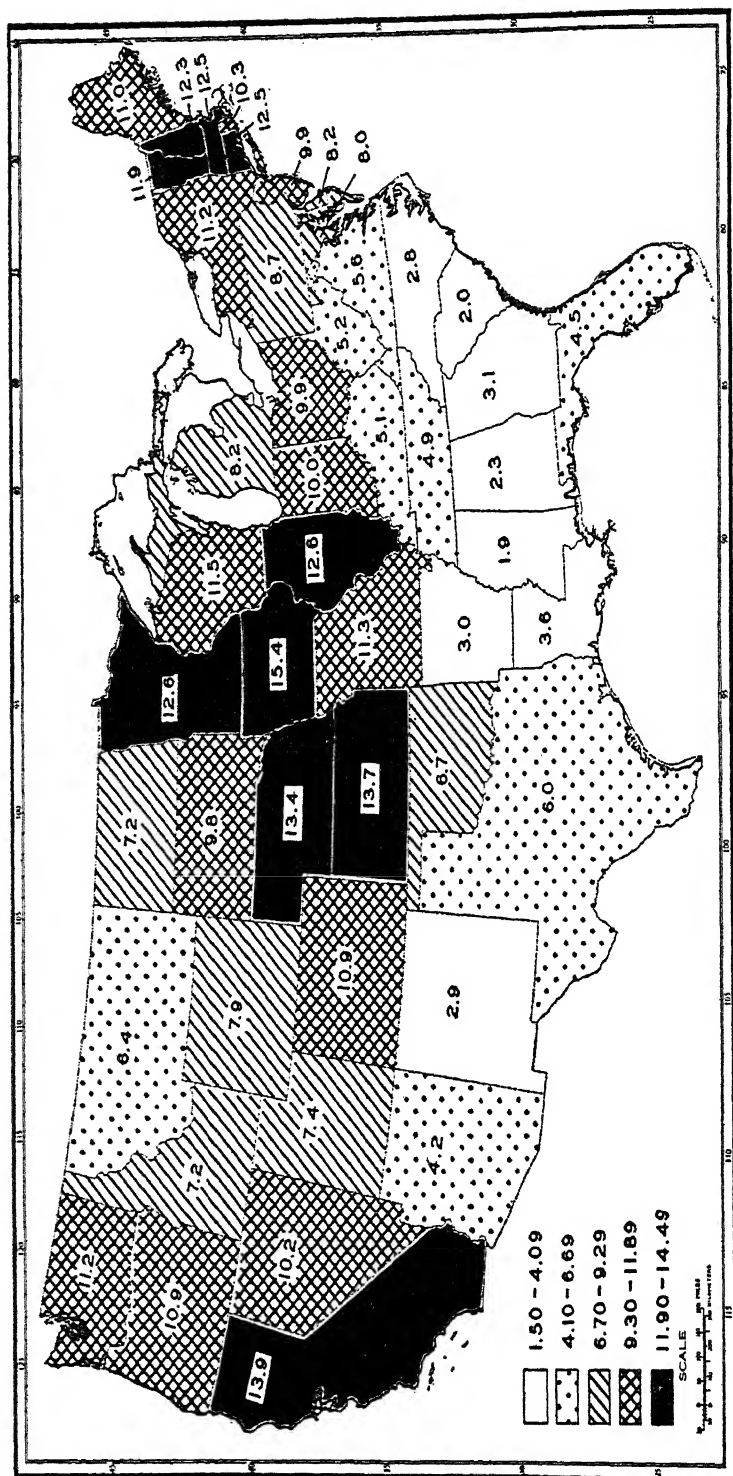


FIG. 81.—Residence telephones per 100 population, 1932. Source: Same as for Table 70. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

purpose.<sup>3</sup> However, since all these agencies contribute to the formulation of the commercial, recreational, and cultural pattern of American life, and particularly of American urban life, it may be appropriate to show their distribution in relation to the distribution of libraries, books, magazines, and newspapers. Accordingly, such treatment is given in this chapter to telephones, radios, motion pictures, automobiles, and hard-surfaced roads.

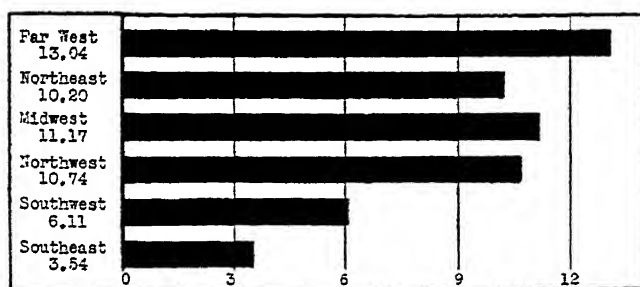


FIG. 82.—Regional summary of residence telephones per 100 population, 1932

#### DISTRIBUTION OF TELEPHONES

The birth years of the telephone and of the American Library Association are the same: Alexander Graham Bell secured a patent for his invention in 1876, when Melvil Dewey and his colleagues were drafting the constitution which brought librarians into a united organization. On December 31, 1935, 17,424,000 commercial and residence telephones were knit together by 8,000,000 miles of telephone lines, and 76,000,000 calls, it is estimated, were completed daily.<sup>4</sup> Table 70 and Figures 81 and 82 show how, in 1932, 11,089,946 residence telephones in the United States were distributed per 100 population in various states and regions. Except in two of the regions, the Southeast and Southwest, the differences among different states and

<sup>3</sup> U.S. National Resources Committee, Research Committee on Urbanism ["A Study of Communication Facilities"] and ["A Study of Recreation"] (MSS in preparation).

<sup>4</sup> U.S. National Resources Committee, Research Committee on Urbanism ["A Study of Communication Facilities"], Table 88.

regions in number of telephones available appear as comparatively slight. A comparison of Figure 81 with that of the library index for 1934 reveals that, in general, the regions which rank low in library service tend to rank low, also, in telephone service. The Midwest is exceptional in that it tends to rank higher in telephone service than in library development. The difference is especially notable in Iowa. Its bearing upon library use will be readily understood by librarians and patrons of those library systems in which the telephone and Western Union messengers are employed to expedite reference and other forms of library service. Obviously, the telephone cannot be used extensively as an adjunct to this service in eleven of the southeastern and southwestern states where but 5 per cent, or less, of the residences have such means of communication. Even if library service were available, there would still be lacking that combined use of telephone and of Western Union delivery service which is enjoyed by patrons of many urban libraries.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF RADIOS

The first regular program which was broadcast by radio in the United States was given in San Francisco, in 1920, a bare eighteen years ago; and the first commercially sponsored program on a nation-wide basis was broadcast on New Year's Day in 1925.<sup>5</sup> In 1930, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 12,048,762, or 40.3 per cent of all families in the United States, owned one or more radios.<sup>6</sup> The number increased in 1932 to 16,679,253,<sup>7</sup> and on January 1, 1935, to 21,455,799,<sup>8</sup> or 69.4 per cent of all families.

The possibilities are very real that the radio may be a serious

<sup>5</sup> U.S. National Resources Committee, Research Committee on Urbanism ["A Study of Communication Facilities"] (MS).

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census: 1930, Population*, I (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1931), 10.

<sup>7</sup> H. S. Hettinger, *A Decade of Radio Advertising* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1933), p. 42.

<sup>8</sup> Columbia Broadcasting Company, *Lost and Found* (New York: Columbia Broadcasting Company, 1935), p. 7.

TABLE 71\*  
PER CENT OF FAMILIES OWNING RADIOS, JANUARY 1, 1935

STATE	RANK	FAMILIES OWNING RADIOS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Cent	
New York...	1	2,928,870	89.7	1.60
New Jersey...	2	895,884	86.8	1.43
Rhode Island...	3	148,961	86.7	1.42
Massachusetts...	4	903,467	85.5	1.35
Connecticut...	5	339,845	84.2	1.27
Pennsylvania...	6	1,913,349	83.7	1.23
Illinois...	7	1,647,283	81.6	1.10
Maryland...	8	318,877	80.1	1.01
New Hampshire...	9	94,186	78.2	0.90
California...	10	1,369,365	77.8	0.87
Oregon...	11	211,103	76.8	0.81
Washington...	12	333,236	76.7	0.80
Ohio...	13	1,336,547	76.3	0.78
Delaware...	14	45,898	75.9	0.75
Michigan...	15	919,946	74.1	0.64
Iowa...	16	459,988	72.2	0.53
Utah...	17	84,293	71.3	0.47
Minnesota...	18	441,164	71.2	0.46
Nebraska...	19	244,503	70.1	0.40
Colorado...	20	186,598	68.9	0.32
Missouri...	21	649,040	68.8	0.32
Indiana...	22	597,696	68.7	0.31
Maine...	23	136,840	68.1	0.27
Idaho...	24	74,284	68.0	0.27
Vermont...	25	61,274	67.9	0.26
Wisconsin...	26	489,602	66.8	0.19
Kansas...	27	319,714	65.4	0.11
South Dakota...	28	103,342	63.0	-0.03
Montana...	29	86,011	62.4	-0.07
West Virginia...	30	239,227	61.6	-0.12
Nevada...	31	16,370	60.9	-0.16
North Dakota...	32	84,138	57.5	-0.37
Virginia...	33	301,894	56.8	-0.41
Wyoming...	34	33,522	56.3	-0.45
Louisiana...	35	258,420	51.3	-0.75
Texas...	36	733,128	50.7	-0.79
Tennessee...	37	312,491	50.2	-0.82
Florida...	38	200,674	49.7	-0.85
Oklahoma...	39	291,595	49.5	-0.86
Kentucky...	40	300,877	48.7	-0.91
Arizona...	41	53,518	48.0	-0.96
New Mexico...	42	43,394	42.7	-1.28
North Carolina...	43	266,924	39.6	-1.47
Georgia...	44	260,011	39.3	-1.49
South Carolina...	45	142,706	38.3	-1.56
Alabama...	46	216,979	36.0	-1.70
Arkansas...	47	122,989	27.5	-2.22
Mississippi...	48	113,989	23.8	-2.45

\* Source: Columbia Broadcasting Co., *Lost and Found* (N.Y.: Columbia Broadcasting Co., 1935), p. 7. Compilation figures in this table are based on an estimated figure for population of 126,425,000; for families, 30,919,500; for radio homes, 21,455,799.

Mean per cent (based on means of the 48 states), 65.65; standard deviation, 16.21; U.S. total families owning radios, 21,455,799; U.S. per cent families owning radios (including District of Columbia), 69.41.

competitor of the library for the use of leisure time devoted to recreational purposes, or even for information concerning certain current questions. The person who labors physically during the day may find it much easier to drop into a chair, turn on the radio, and "just listen" than to read a book—an act that in itself proves difficult for that part of the population which has not acquired a reading skill beyond that imparted by the elementary school. The appeal of the radio to persons of all ages and economic status is attested by the fact that millions of the 78,000,000 potential listeners actually listen in daily, many of them spending from a few minutes to several hours in that way.<sup>9</sup> Because there are in the United States 250,000 or more schools, 210,000 churches, and numerous other educational, religious, and special agencies which are potential users of educational programs, the development of educational broadcasting may also tend to increase the time devoted to it in the future, particularly if television and the talking book can be developed in such way that the eye as well as the ear may be employed in the educational process. Nevertheless, while it is true that the radio is a competitor in the ways indicated, there is abundant evidence that the library may employ the radio in extending information about books and thereby stimulate interest in reading and the use of library materials, generally.

Since the family rather than the individual affords the best unit for indicating the availability of the radio, the per cent of families owning radios is used to show distribution by states and regions. The data in Table 71 and Figures 83 and 84 are for January 1, 1935. They signify that the per cent of families having radios increased from 40.3, in 1930, to 69.4 in 1935, in spite of the depression. If these data are analyzed on the basis of urban and rural ownership, it is found that a higher per cent of families living in cities have radios than do those living in the country. The range for cities, by sizes, is: cities having over 250,000 population, 93.4 per cent; 25,000 to 250,000, 91.7 per

<sup>9</sup> Hadley Cantril and G. W. Allport, *The Psychology of Radio* (New York and London: Harper and Brothers, 1935), p. 87.

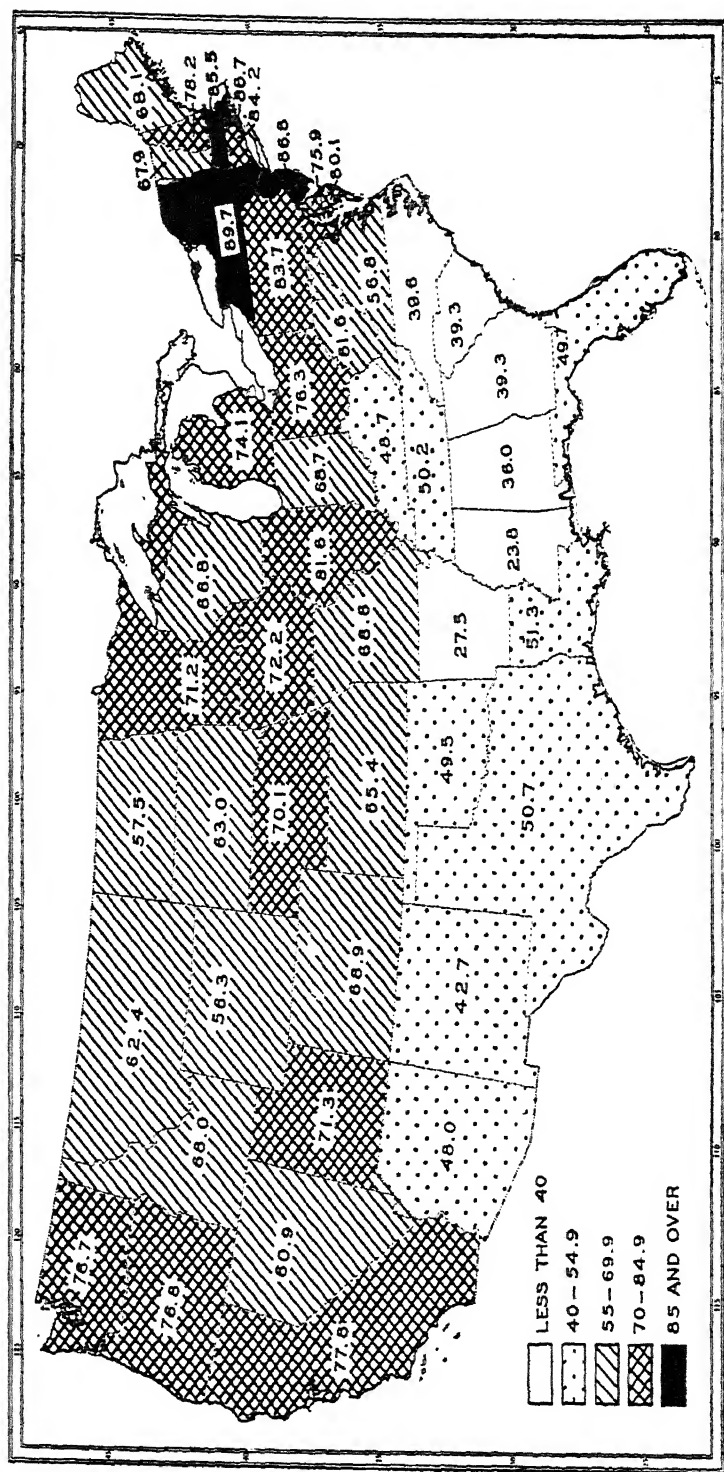


FIG. 83.—Per cent of families owning radios, January 1, 1935. Source: Same as for Table 71. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)



cent; 1,000 to 25,000, 88.2 per cent; towns under 1,000, 76.8 per cent; rural farms, 33.9 per cent. The average figure for the United States, including urban and rural population, is 69.4. The effect of income upon ownership is also seen in the following range: over \$10,000, 90 per cent; \$5,000 to \$10,000, 85 per cent; \$3,000 to \$5,000, 79 per cent; \$2,000 to \$3,000, 65 per cent; under \$1,000, 52 per cent. The regional differences, however, are not so great as those in library service; e.g., the Northeast ranks 84.7 per cent, approximately twice as high as the Southeast, 42.2 per cent, in radio ownership, whereas the average index of library service in the Northeast is 0.58 to the South-

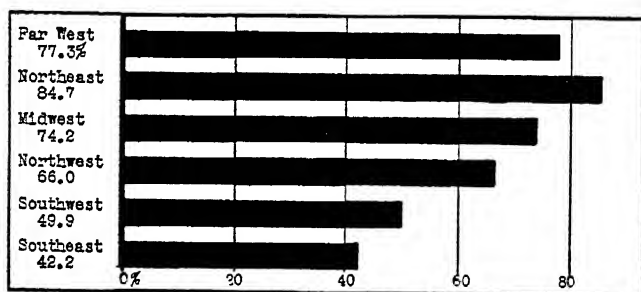


FIG. 84.—Regional summary of per cent of families owning radios, January 1, 1935.

east's—1.04. The lack of electricity accounts in part for the difference between urban and rural ownership, although wealth,<sup>10</sup> urbanization, and distance from broadcasting stations are doubtless contributing causes. Climatic conditions which produce static in the regions of the Southeast and the Southwest may also affect use adversely.

#### RADIO SERVICE TO FARMS

To offset, as far as possible, the limitations of radio use in rural areas, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has provided a number of syndicated broadcasting programs for farm homes.

<sup>10</sup> According to the analysis made by Mr. G. F. Purdy, in his unpublished doctoral dissertation, "Public Library Service in the Middle West" (Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1936), pp. 57-73, wealth appeared to be the basic factor underlying the apparent urban-rural disparity. That is, when wealth was held constant, the urban-rural difference largely disappeared.

TABLE 72\*  
MOTION PICTURE RECEIPTS PER CAPITA, 1933

STATE	RANK	MOTION PICTURE THEATERS	RECEIPTS		STANDARD SCORE
			Total (in thousands)	Per Capita	
New York.	1	849	\$90,000	\$7 15	3.05
California.	2	618	34,296	6 04	2 29
Nevada	3	19	474	5 21	1.72
Massachusetts.	4	280	21,833	5 14	1.67
Connecticut.	5	140	7,649	4 76	1 41
New Jersey.	6	236	19,154	4 74	1 40
Rhode Island	7	35	3,171	4 61	1 31
Washington.	8	219	6,907	4 42	1 18
Illinois . . .	9	550	32,964	4 32	1 11
Delaware	10	23	940	3 94	0 85
Maryland	11	145	6,344	3 89	0 82
Wyoming	12	37	873	3 87	0 81
Pennsylvania.	13	734	30,539	3 17	0 33
Ohio . . . .	14	554	20,686	3 11	0 29
Oregon..	15	115	2,901	3 04	0 24
Minnesota . .	16	314	7,523	2 93	0 16
Michigan . . .	17	403	14,039	2 90	0 14
Montana	18	84	1,536	2 86	0 12
New Hampshire	19	47	1,322	2 84	0 10
Missouri . . .	20	314	9,628	2 65	-0 03
Arizona . . .	21	32	1,101	2 53	-0 11
Colorado . . .	22	122	2,572	2 48	-0 14
Kansas . . . .	23	254	4,564	2 43	-0 18
Indiana . . . .	24	296	7,448	2 30	-0 27
Iowa . . . . .	25	316	5,556	2 25	-0 30
Wisconsin . . .	25	303	6,601	2 25	-0 30
Utah . . . . .	27	74	1,126	2 22	-0 32
Louisiana . . .	28	151	4,638	2 21	-0 33
Texas . . . . .	29	512	12,772	2 19	-0 34
Idaho . . . . .	30	70	954	2 14	-0 38
Nebraska . . . .	31	239	2,798	2 03	-0 45
Oklahoma . . .	32	254	4,409	1 84	-0 58
West Virginia	33	155	3,146	1 82	-0 59
South Dakota . .	34	115	1,241	1 79	-0 61
Virginia . . . .	35	159	4,129	1 70	-0 68
North Dakota . .	36	101	1,083	1 59	-0 75
Maine . . . . .	37	74	1,144	1 53	-0 79
Vermont . . . .	38	32	542	1 51	-0 81
Kentucky . . . .	39	154	3,875	1 48	-0 83
Georgia . . . .	40	156	4,102	1 41	-0 87
North Carolina . .	41	183	4,095	1 29	-0 96
Florida . . . . .	42	93	1,744	1 19	-1 02
New Mexico . . .	43	30	497	1 17	-1 04
Tennessee . . .	44	124	2,777	1 06	-1 11
South Carolina . .	45	77	1,636	0 94	-1 20
Arkansas . . . .	46	110	1,472	0 79	-1 30
Alabama . . . .	47	126	1,816	0 69	-1 37
Mississippi . . .	48	92	1,254	0 62	-1 41

\* Source: U.S. Bur. Census, *Census of American Business: 1933, Services, Amusements, and Hotels* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1935), I, Table 41, p. 27.  
Mean receipts per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$2.69, standard deviation, \$1.46; U.S. total motion picture theaters, 10,143; U.S. total receipts (in thousands), \$406,542, U.S. receipts per capita (including District of Columbia), \$3.31.

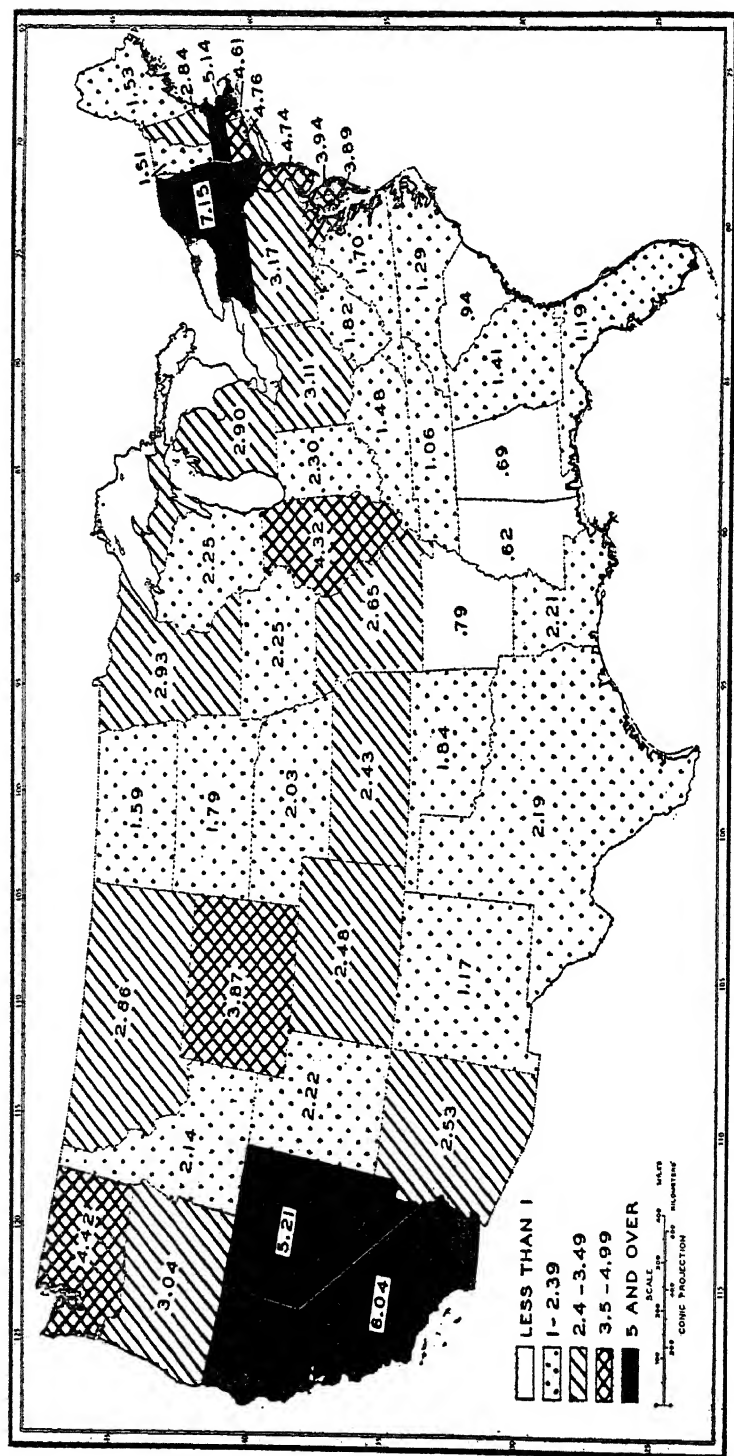


FIG. 85.—Motion picture receipts per capita, 1933. Source: Same as for Table 72. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)  
The figures in this map are expressed in terms of dollars.

Three of these are widespread in their coverage. "Farm Flashes" (daily seven-minute reports on results of research and developments in the federal program of direct assistance to farm people) is offered to 280 radio stations; "Housekeepers' Chats" (daily seven-minute reports for homemakers) is offered to 290 stations; and "Market News" (a reporting service on prices, etc.) is offered to 150 stations. All of these services are supplemented by special broadcasts from 14 of the broadcasting stations of land-grant colleges.

## DISTRIBUTION OF MOTION PICTURES

The radio, as has just been shown, is a scant eighteen years of age. The moving picture, while double the radio's age, is still a product of the twentieth century and is only approximately

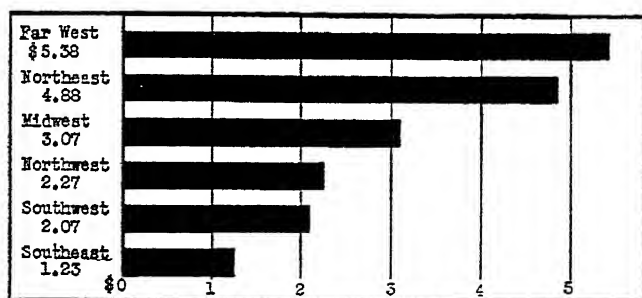


FIG. 86.—Regional summary of motion picture receipts per capita, 1933

a third as old as the public library. In the brief period of three and one-half decades, however, it has become one of America's leading commercial enterprises, its use as a nation-wide news service has been signally demonstrated, and its right to be first in the hearts of Americans as an agency for the provision of entertainment has been universally acclaimed. In 1930, it was supposed to draw a weekly attendance of 110,000,000-115,000,000, and in 1936, after dropping to 60,000,000 in the worst years of the depression, it was again drawing an attendance

TABLE 73\*

## PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES PER 100 POPULATION, 1932

STATE	RANK	PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100 Population	
California...	1	1,738,385	30.6	2.41
Nevada...	2	25,035	27.5	1.85
Oregon...	3	236,405	24.8	1.36
Colorado...	4	255,854	24.7	1.34
Iowa...	5	606,523	24.5	1.31
Washington...	6	381,490	24.4	1.29
Nebraska...	7	322,347	23.4	1.11
Kansas...	8	432,610	23.0	1.04
Minnesota...	9	581,905	22.7	0.98
Ohio...	10	1,420,550	21.4	0.75
Indiana...	11	675,108	20.8	0.64
Michigan...	12	1,000,169	20.7	0.62
South Dakota...	13	142,552	20.6	0.60
Wyoming...	14	46,330	20.5	0.58
Wisconsin...	15	587,906	20.0	0.49
Vermont...	16	69,230	19.3	0.37
North Dakota...	17	130,660	19.2	0.35
New Hampshire...	18	88,141	18.9	0.29
Arizona...	19	80,099	18.4	0.21
Idaho...	19	81,993	18.4	0.21
Delaware...	21	43,441	18.2	0.17
Connecticut...	22	289,660	18.0	0.13
New Jersey...	22	726,201	18.0	0.13
Maryland...	24	286,583	17.6	0.06
Illinois...	25	1,311,783	17.2	-0.01
Maine...	25	136,774	17.2	-0.01
Texas...	25	1,001,675	17.2	-0.01
Missouri...	28	618,195	17.0	-0.05
Florida...	29	248,517	16.9	-0.07
Rhode Island...	30	114,950	16.7	-0.10
Montana...	31	88,647	16.5	-0.14
Massachusetts...	32	698,358	16.4	-0.16
Utah...	32	83,089	16.4	-0.16
Oklahoma...	34	379,599	15.8	-0.25
New York...	35	1,931,384	15.3	-0.36
Pennsylvania...	36	1,448,978	15.0	-0.41
New Mexico...	37	61,720	14.6	-0.48
Virginia...	38	308,806	12.8	-0.81
West Virginia...	39	193,232	11.2	-1.10
North Carolina...	40	328,500	10.4	-1.24
Tennessee...	41	267,279	10.2	-1.28
Kentucky...	42	260,959	10.0	-1.31
Louisiana...	43	198,787	9.5	-1.41
South Carolina...	44	157,453	9.1	-1.48
Georgia...	45	245,666	8.4	-1.60
Alabama...	46	194,237	7.3	-1.80
Arkansas...	47	112,587	6.1	-2.02
Mississippi...	48	120,180	6.0	-2.04

\* Source: "International Yearbook Number," *Editor and Publisher*, LXVI (January 27, 1934), 205.  
Mean per 100 population (based on means of the 48 states), 17.27; standard deviation, 5.53; U.S. total, 20,903,422; U.S. passenger automobiles per 100 population (including District of Columbia), 17.03.

TABLE 74\*  
PER CENT OF FARMS ON HARD-SURFACED ROADS, 1929

STATE	RANK	FARMS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per Cent	
Indiana. . . . .	1	139,033	76.6	2.36
Ohio. . . . .	2	154,668	70.5	2.04
Oregon. . . . .	3	36,035	65.3	1.76
Washington. . . . .	4	45,842	64.7	1.72
New Jersey. . . . .	5	15,334	60.4	1.49
Michigan. . . . .	6	96,502	57.0	1.31
Massachusetts. . . . .	7	14,436	56.4	1.28
Wisconsin. . . . .	8	102,390	56.3	1.27
Rhode Island. . . . .	9	1,679	50.5	0.96
California. . . . .	10	67,366	49.7	0.92
Utah. . . . .	11	12,671	46.7	0.76
New York. . . . .	12	74,410	46.6	0.75
Minnesota. . . . .	13	79,773	43.1	0.56
Vermont. . . . .	14	10,607	42.6	0.54
Maine. . . . .	15	15,996	41.0	0.45
Idaho. . . . .	16	16,808	40.3	0.41
Maryland. . . . .	17	17,260	40.0	0.40
Connecticut. . . . .	17	6,886	40.0	0.40
New Hampshire. . . . .	19	5,834	39.1	0.35
Delaware. . . . .	20	3,650	37.6	0.27
Mississippi. . . . .	21	114,177	36.5	0.21
Louisiana. . . . .	22	55,326	34.3	0.09
Tennessee. . . . .	23	80,290	32.7	0.00
Illinois. . . . .	24	68,347	31.9	-0.04
Kentucky. . . . .	25	76,939	31.2	-0.08
Pennsylvania. . . . .	26	52,762	30.6	-0.11
Iowa. . . . .	27	56,837	26.4	-0.33
Colorado. . . . .	28	15,279	25.5	-0.38
Florida. . . . .	29	13,986	23.7	-0.48
Arizona. . . . .	30	3,171	22.4	-0.55
Virginia. . . . .	31	36,069	21.1	-0.62
Missouri. . . . .	32	51,562	20.1	-0.67
Nevada. . . . .	33	655	19.0	-0.73
Alabama. . . . .	34	47,730	18.5	-0.76
West Virginia. . . . .	35	14,362	17.4	-0.82
Arkansas. . . . .	36	41,858	17.3	-0.82
Texas. . . . .	37	77,267	15.6	-0.91
North Carolina. . . . .	38	40,232	14.4	-0.98
South Dakota. . . . .	39	11,431	13.7	-1.02
New Mexico. . . . .	40	3,951	12.6	-1.07
Nebraska. . . . .	41	16,216	12.5	-1.08
Montana. . . . .	42	5,773	12.2	-1.10
Kansas. . . . .	43	18,937	11.4	-1.14
Wyoming. . . . .	44	1,522	9.5	-1.24
South Carolina. . . . .	45	12,832	8.1	-1.32
Georgia. . . . .	46	18,768	7.3	-1.36
Oklahoma. . . . .	47	14,529	7.1	-1.37
North Dakota. . . . .	48	5,219	6.7	-1.39

\* Source: U.S. Census, 1930, *Agriculture* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1932), II, Part 1, 57 ff.  
Mean per cent (based on means of the 48 states), 32.6; standard deviation, 18.60; U.S. total, 1,873,295;  
U.S. per cent of farms on hard-surfaced roads (including District of Columbia), 29.79.

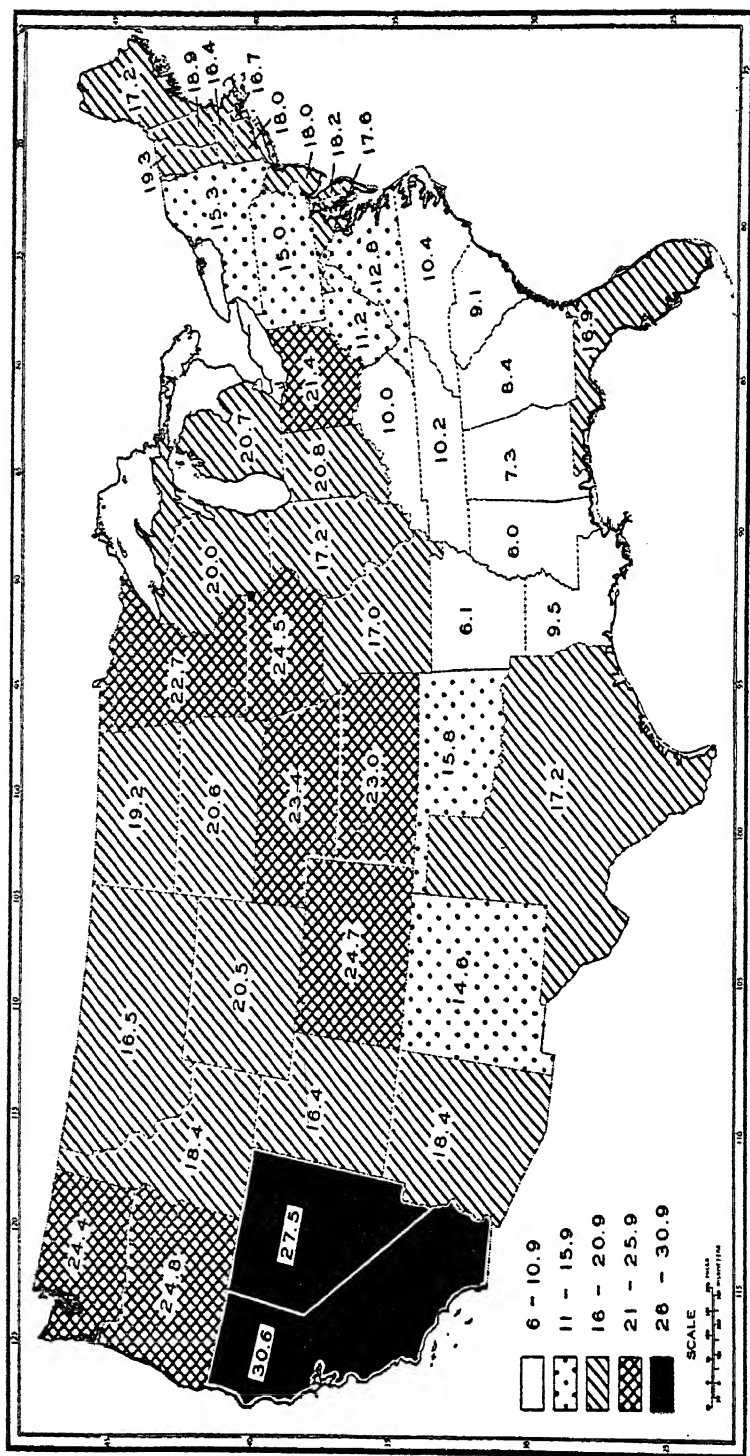


FIG. 87.—Passenger automobiles per 100 population, 1932. Source: Same as for Table 73. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

estimated at 80,000,000 or more. Table 72 shows the estimated distribution of theaters, their total receipts, and the per capita expenditures for the nation.<sup>11</sup>

#### AUTOMOBILES AND HARD-SURFACED ROADS

Like the motion picture, the automobile has been developed since 1900. In 1895, there were only four cars in the United

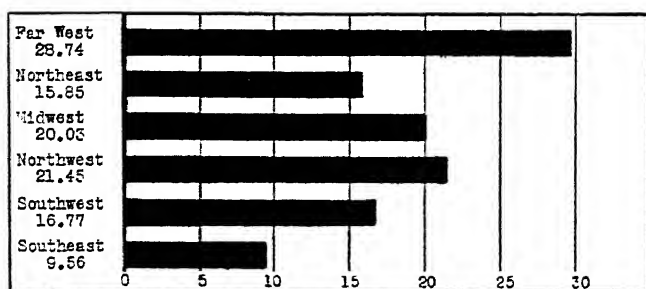


FIG. 88.—Regional summary of passenger automobiles per 100 population, 1932

States. In 1900, the number had grown to 8,000. In 1920, it had risen to 8,225,859, and in 1930, to 23,059,000—a situation showing that there are approximately one-fourth as many cars

<sup>11</sup> The report of the U.S. National Resources Committee, Research Committee on Urbanism, in its ["Study of Communication Facilities"] comments as follows upon the data in the table:

"The only available figures on motion picture attendance are national estimates of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, which appear in the issues of the *Film Year Book*, and various estimates of attendance of certain films compiled by motion picture trade periodicals. This extreme paucity of information is much to be regretted; it would seem extremely desirable for the Motion Picture Division of the Department of Commerce to attempt some compilation on attendance, or that such information be assembled as part of the *Census of Business*. In 1933 the Department of Commerce, in the *Census of Business* and through a special Civil Works Administration Project, made a census of services, amusements and hotels, which included the number of motion picture theaters and receipts collected in that year, by state, for cities with a population of more than 50,000. This was the first official census that has been made of the retail end of the motion picture business. Compared with information given in the *Film Year Book* there appears to be a rather serious under-enumeration of the number of motion picture theater establishments in the *Census of Business*. It is difficult, however, to estimate the degree of accuracy of the *Year Book* reports. There were no figures on attendance included in the *Census of Business*."



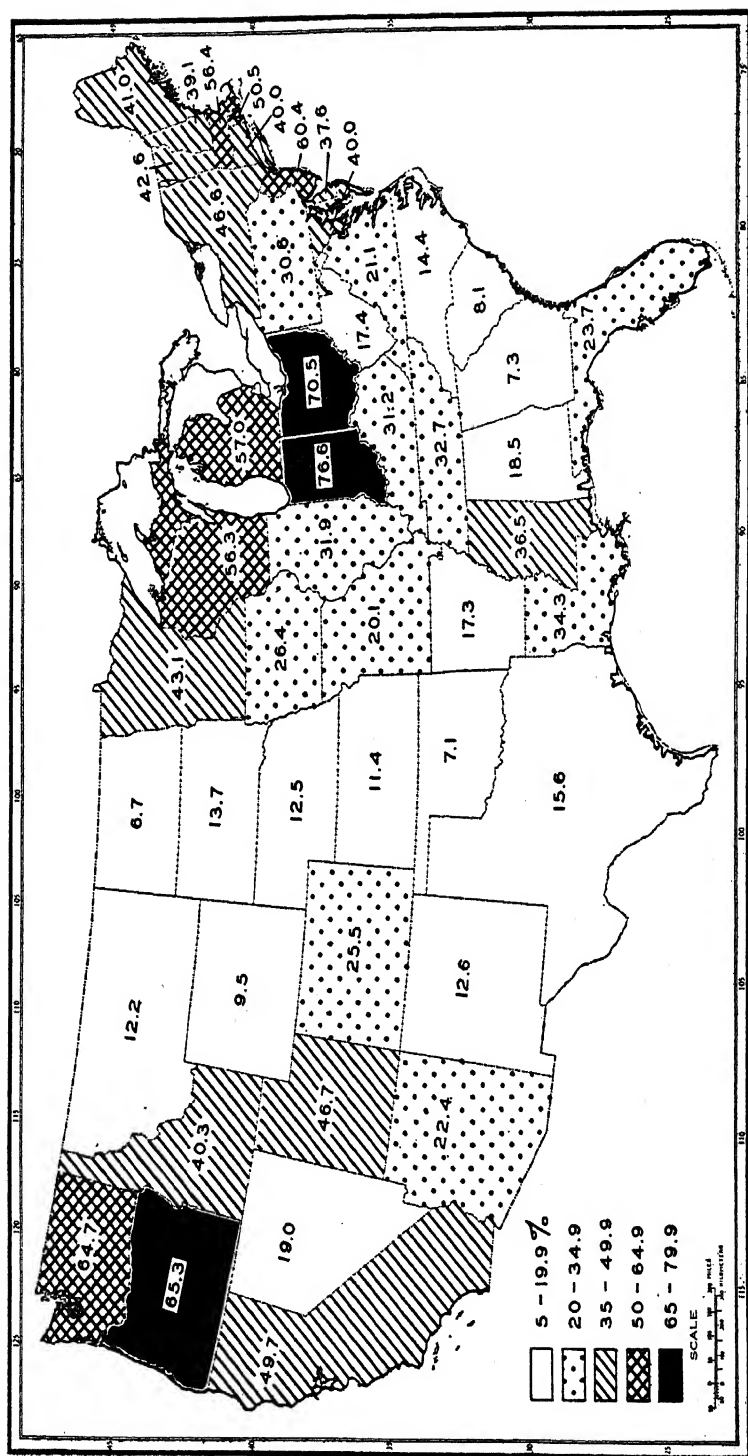


FIG. 89.—Per cent of farms on hard-surfaced roads, 1929. Source: Same as for Table 74. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

housed in garages, or otherwise, as there are volumes shelved in all the public libraries in the nation.<sup>12</sup>

The principal function of the automobile and of the hard-surfaced road, which has accompanied its development, may be considered to be transportation. Its function as a means of communication, however, is extremely important and has brought to America, particularly rural America, one of its principal means of eliminating rural isolation, extending social contact, and multiplying cultural opportunities. Without the automobile the service of the county library would be all but impossible, and the country-wide use of the library book as a means of transmitting ideas would be severely limited.



FIG. 90.—Regional summary of per cent of farms on hard-surfaced roads, 1929

The distribution of both automobiles and of farms located on hard-surfaced roads is shown in Tables 73 and 74, and Figures 87 to 90. In the case of automobiles, the distribution is not broken down into urban and rural categories, but the population of the state as a whole is used as the unit. The data concerning farms on hard-surfaced roads, however, relate specifically to rural America, as the effectiveness of the automobile in breaking down isolation is, to a large degree, dependent upon the character of the roads which serve rural populations. Together, the two have tremendously reduced both the physical and mental isolation which formerly hemmed in the country dweller. And

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1934* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1934), p. 339.

while they have been doing this for the countryside, they have helped the city resident to extend the limits of suburban and metropolitan areas.

#### SUMMARY

A few selected facilities of communication and transportation have been sketched in this chapter, not with the intention of showing their immensity and complexity, but rather with that of suggesting their general relation to library development. They are a part of America's economic, social, and cultural heritage, and, therefore, cannot be overlooked in view of their effect upon such institutions and agencies as the library and the school, with which they are consciously or unconsciously associated. Their rapid development and use, like that of the nineteenth-century telegraph, which tremendously reduced the element of time in person-to-person communication, and like that of the city and rural free delivery which brought books, magazines, and newspapers to the doors of both urban and rural dwellers, have profoundly affected the daily thinking and living of the masses of the American people. How the influence of telephones, radios, and motion picture theaters may be further magnified, or what will be the nature of their future impact upon the library can at present be but vaguely sensed. That their distribution throughout the nation follows, in general, the pattern of library distribution, is abundantly supported by the data presented. Where libraries exist, these media for the communication of ideas exist, also; where libraries are lacking, these are likewise relatively lacking. All three media—though this is less true in the case of the radio—are, like libraries, bookstores, magazines, and daily newspapers, more numerous in areas that are predominantly urban.

## CHAPTER XI

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THE library has always been considered an agency of society for the promotion of public enlightenment. It has shared this position with the school, the college, the university, the art museum, and many other organizations engaged in educational, religious, and recreational activities, all working more or less independently.

Since the primary function of the library is assumed to be that of furnishing individuals and groups with reading materials in direct response, frequently, to the demands of members of schools, study clubs, and other organizations engaged in educational, religious, or recreational activities, its distribution may well be considered in relation to that of the various organizations which it thus serves. The question may be asked: Does the status of these facilities bear any significant relation to the status of library service? This chapter is devoted to answering this question in so far as it relates to the public school.

Although there is no national system of education in the United States, the educational facilities of the country are organized on a more extensive basis than those of any other nation. For the year ended June 30, 1932, total expenditures for education in continental United States, not including correspondence and commercial schools, amounted to \$2,968,010,400.<sup>1</sup> Of this amount, 73 per cent, or \$2,174,650,555, was for public elementary (including kindergarten) and high schools; about 8 per cent, or \$229,563,702, was for private schools of similar grade; and about 18 per cent, or \$543,855,466, was expended by colleges, universities, and teachers colleges. In 1933-34, the enrolment in the elementary schools, public and private, was

<sup>1</sup> C. S. Marsh, ed., *American Universities and Colleges* (3d ed.; Washington: American Council on Education, 1936), p. 5.

TABLE 75\*  
INDEX OF EDUCATION AND INDEX OF PUBLIC LIBRARY  
DEVELOPMENT, 1934

State	Rank	Index of Education	Index of Public Library Development, 1934
California . . . . .	1	1.82	2 06
New York . . . . .	2	1.48	0 80
Washington . . . . .	3	1.47	0 52
Nevada . . . . .	3	1.47	0 63
Oregon . . . . .	5	1.11	0 90
New Jersey . . . . .	6	1.02	0 96
Wyoming . . . . .	7	1.01	1.11
Massachusetts . . . . .	8	0.92	2 31
Connecticut . . . . .	9	0.79	1 56
Illinois . . . . .	10	0.72	0.43
Delaware . . . . .	11	0.71	0 71
Montana . . . . .	12	0.66	-0 18
Utah . . . . .	13	0.65	0 16
Colorado . . . . .	14	0.63	0 02
Kansas . . . . .	15	0.59	-0 51
Michigan . . . . .	15	0.59	0 37
Ohio . . . . .	17	0.58	0 98
Wisconsin . . . . .	18	0.55	0 58
Indiana . . . . .	18	0.55	0 77
Iowa . . . . .	20	0.52	-0 01
Idaho . . . . .	20	0.52	-0.64
Nebraska . . . . .	22	0.50	-0 23
Minnesota . . . . .	23	0.37	0 15
Pennsylvania . . . . .	24	0.31	-0 39
Rhode Island . . . . .	25	0.24	1.14
Missouri . . . . .	26	0.12	-0.37
Maine . . . . .	27	0.07	0.68
Arizona . . . . .	28	0.02	-0.50
Maryland . . . . .	29	-0.06	-0 11
New Hampshire . . . . .	30	-0.07	2.16
South Dakota . . . . .	31	-0.08	-0 60
North Dakota . . . . .	32	-0.24	-1.11
Vermont . . . . .	33	-0.41	1.52
Oklahoma . . . . .	34	-0.44	-0.81
Florida . . . . .	35	-0.53	-0.82
West Virginia . . . . .	36	-0.62	-1.39
New Mexico . . . . .	37	-0.71	-1.07
Texas . . . . .	38	-0.77	-0 97
Virginia . . . . .	39	-0.98	-0 90
North Carolina . . . . .	40	-1.13	-0 97
Tennessee . . . . .	41	-1.28	-0.82
Louisiana . . . . .	42	-1.37	-1.06
Kentucky . . . . .	43	-1.58	-0 99
Mississippi . . . . .	44	-1.77	-1.28
South Carolina . . . . .	45	-1.86	-1.06
Georgia . . . . .	46	-1.88	-1.14
Alabama . . . . .	46	-1.88	-1.14
Arkansas . . . . .	48	-2.07	-1.45

\* Source: Table 51; based also upon data from which was prepared Figure 8 in L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chic.: U. of C. Press, 1935), p. 14.

The index of education is the average of the standard scores of the individual data involved. The average has been adjusted to preserve the standard score concept; thus it is actually the standard score of the average of the separate standard scores. It includes four items: (1) ratio of aggregate days attended to total population 5-17 years of age; (2) daily expenditure per pupil in average daily attendance, (3) average annual salary per teacher; (4) per cent of total public enrolment in secondary schools.

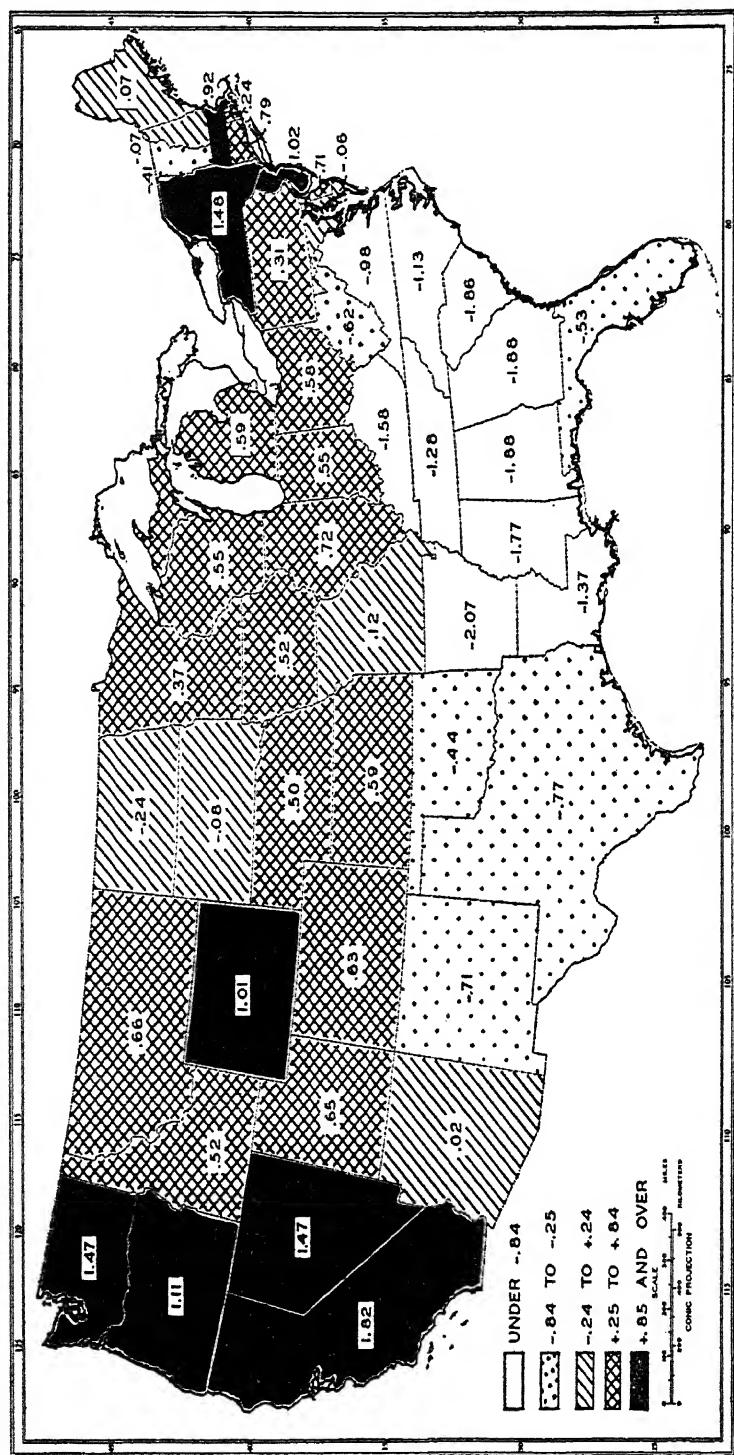


FIG. 91.—Index of education. Source: Data from which was prepared Figure 8 in L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), p. 14. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

23,262,371. In public and private high schools, it was 6,096,488, or approximately 60 per cent of the nation's population of high school age.<sup>2</sup> In the same year, enrolment in public and private colleges and universities of the United States was 1,055,360. The total enrolment for all three was 30,414,219.

The aspects of public education which might be considered in relation to library development are so numerous and have been treated so frequently that for the purposes of this study it will suffice to rely principally upon an educational index to convey the general impression of educational development by states and regions. The index used here is based on the following factors: (1) the ratio of aggregate days attended to population 5-17 years of age, which ratio includes: (a) population of school age, (b) length of school term, (c) average daily attendance; (2) daily expenditure per pupil in average daily attendance; (3) average annual salary per teacher; (4) per cent of total public enrolment in secondary schools.

The index derived in this way correlates very closely with the educational index developed by Ayres in 1930.<sup>3</sup> If the former is compared (see Table 75 and Fig. 91) with the library index (Table 51 and Fig. 50), it will be seen that twenty-two states are in the same interval, nineteen vary one, six vary two, and one (Vermont) varies three intervals.

Table 76 reveals other differences. It shows that western states rank higher in educational facilities, for the most part, while states which rank significantly higher in library development are eastern. Regionally, all of the states of the Far West rank above the mean on both indices; in the Southeast all the states rank below on both, as do three of the four states in the Southwest. In the Midwest, all the states rank above on both indices, except Iowa and Missouri which fall below in library facilities. The Northeast has two states ranking two intervals

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Office of Education, *Biennial Survey of Education in the United States: 1932-1934*, Bulletin 1935, No. 2 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1937), chap. i, p. 6.

<sup>3</sup> L. P. Ayres, *An Index Number for State School Systems* (New York: Department of Education, Russell Sage Foundation, 1920).

higher on the library than on the educational index, and Vermont ranks three intervals higher. Pennsylvania's library index, however, is two intervals lower than its educational index. The Northwest, likewise, presents wide variations. Delaware is the only state that ranks exactly the same in respect to both indices.

TABLE 76\*

STATES WITH WIDE VARIATION IN RANKING ON INDEX OF PUBLIC  
LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT AND ON INDEX OF EDUCATION

STATE	STANDARD SCORE		
	Education	Library	Difference
<i>Northeast:</i>			
New Hampshire . . . . .	-0 07	2 16	2 23
Vermont. . . . .	-0 41	1 52	1.93
Massachusetts . . . . .	0 92	2.31	1.39
Rhode Island. . . . .	0.24	1.14	0 90
<i>Southeast:</i>			
South Carolina . . . . .	-1.86	-1.06	0 80
<i>Northwest:</i>			
Idaho . . . . .	0.52	-0.64	1.16
Kansas. . . . .	0.59	-0.51	1.10
North Dakota. . . . .	-0.24	-1.11	0.87
Montana . . . . .	0.66	-0.18	0 84
<i>Far West:</i>			
Washington. . . . .	1 47	0.52	0 95
Nevada. . . . .	1.47	0.63	0 84

\* Source: Tables 51 and 75.

#### DIFFERENCES DUE TO ILLITERACY

In order to understand more fully the relationship which exists between the status of schools and libraries, it is necessary to emphasize several factors which particularly affect library development. Three such factors are: (1) the per cent of literate people in each state; (2) the number of one-room school houses; and (3) the number of children 5-17 years of age per 100 population in each state. People who have not mastered



TABLE 77\*  
LITERATE PEOPLE PER 100 POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE,  
AND OVER, 1930

STATE	RANK	LITERATE PEOPLE 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100 Population	
Iowa . . . . .	1	1,991,820	99.2	0.99
Oregon . . . . .	2	795,594	99.0	0.94
Washington . . . . .	2	1,299,071	99.0	0.94
Idaho . . . . .	4	345,405	98.9	0.92
Kansas . . . . .	5	1,500,882	98.8	0.89
Nebraska . . . . .	5	1,093,414	98.8	0.89
South Dakota . . . . .	5	536,801	98.8	0.89
Utah . . . . .	5	381,707	98.8	0.89
Minnesota . . . . .	9	2,049,899	98.7	0.86
North Dakota . . . . .	10	519,186	98.5	0.81
Wyoming . . . . .	11	176,078	98.4	0.79
Indiana . . . . .	12	2,594,835	98.3	0.76
Montana . . . . .	12	427,048	98.3	0.76
Wisconsin . . . . .	14	2,332,192	98.1	0.71
Michigan . . . . .	15	3,815,114	98.0	0.68
Vermont . . . . .	16	285,315	97.8	0.63
Missouri . . . . .	17	2,916,463	97.7	0.61
Ohio . . . . .	17	5,310,457	97.7	0.61
Illinois . . . . .	19	6,179,539	97.6	0.58
California . . . . .	20	4,681,680	97.4	0.53
Maine . . . . .	21	625,487	97.3	0.50
New Hampshire . . . . .	21	372,169	97.3	0.50
Colorado . . . . .	23	812,200	97.2	0.48
Oklahoma . . . . .	23	1,794,555	97.2	0.48
Pennsylvania . . . . .	25	7,490,737	96.9	0.40
Massachusetts . . . . .	26	3,385,159	96.5	0.30
New York . . . . .	27	10,125,050	96.3	0.25
Maryland . . . . .	28	1,274,331	96.2	0.22
New Jersey . . . . .	28	3,202,726	96.2	0.22
Delaware . . . . .	30	188,971	96.0	0.17
Connecticut . . . . .	31	1,261,600	95.5	0.04
Nevada . . . . .	31	72,755	95.5	0.04
West Virginia . . . . .	33	1,239,260	95.2	-0.03
Rhode Island . . . . .	34	532,717	95.1	-0.06
Kentucky . . . . .	35	1,873,947	93.4	-0.50
Arkansas . . . . .	36	1,323,127	93.2	-0.55
Texas . . . . .	36	4,239,866	93.2	-0.55
Florida . . . . .	38	1,091,010	92.9	-0.63
Tennessee . . . . .	39	1,882,649	92.8	-0.65
Virginia . . . . .	40	1,710,250	91.3	-1.04
Georgia . . . . .	41	2,027,456	90.6	-1.22
North Carolina . . . . .	42	2,115,753	90.0	-1.37
Arizona . . . . .	43	301,060	89.9	-1.40
Alabama . . . . .	44	1,749,558	87.4	-2.04
Mississippi . . . . .	45	1,326,367	86.9	-2.17
New Mexico . . . . .	46	272,525	86.7	-2.22
Louisiana . . . . .	47	1,403,118	86.5	-2.27
South Carolina . . . . .	48	1,100,061	85.1	-2.63

\* Source U.S. Bur. For. and Dom. Comm., *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1935* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1935), pp. 36, 42, H. W. Odum, "Southern Regional Study Tables" (Typewritten; Chapel Hill, U. of N. C.), p. 25.

Mean of literates per 100 population 10 years of age and over (based on means of the 48 states), 95.3; standard deviation, 3.892; U.S. total, 94,439,294; U.S. literates per 100 population 10 years of age and over (including District of Columbia), 76.9.

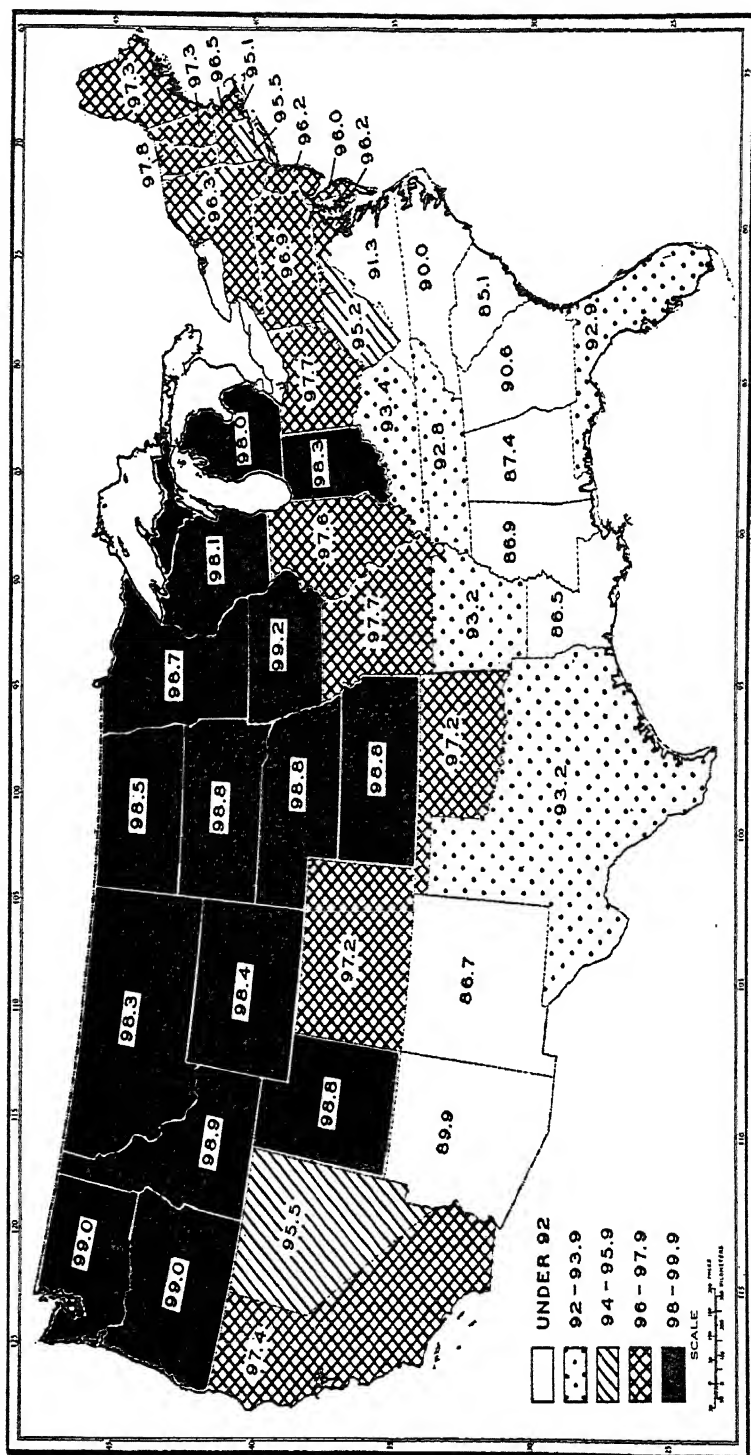


FIG. 92.—Literate people per 100 population 10 years of age, and over, 1930. Source: Same as for Table 77. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

the mechanics of reading are obviously not users of library facilities. Populations with high percentages of children to adults should develop school libraries more extensively, and libraries for adults less extensively, than populations where the conditions are the opposite. And the problem of providing library service for the elementary one-room school is far more difficult than that of providing service for the consolidated or urban elementary school or high school. Table 77 and Figures 92 and 93 show the differences in literacy among states.

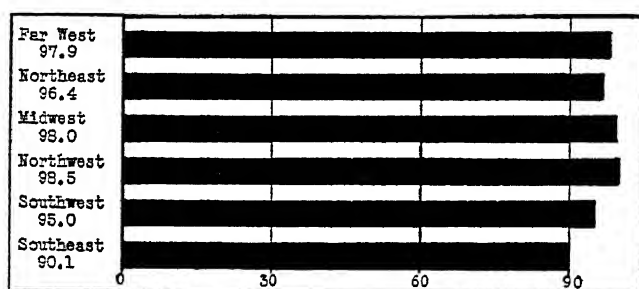


FIG. 93.—Regional summary of literate people per 100 population 10 years of age, and over, 1930.

The regional differences as to literacy, while not seemingly great in terms of actual per cents, are nonetheless extremely important. They range from 98.5 to 90.1 per hundred population. The Northwest is highest, the Southeast is lowest. The range for all the states is from 99.2 in Iowa to 85.1 per cent in South Carolina.

#### NUMBER OF PEOPLE 5-17 YEARS OF AGE

Differences in ability to provide educational facilities, due to the number of children of school age per 100 population, are also very important when viewed in relation to library support. The variation in this particular, by states, as revealed in Table 78 and in Figures 94 and 95, is from 20.08 in California to 34.08 in South Carolina. This means that for every community of 1,000 population the educational authorities in South Carolina have to provide for 340 pupils, while in California, in a com-

PEOPLE 5-17 YEARS OF AGE PER 100 POPULATION, 1930

STATE	RANK	PEOPLE 5-17 YEARS OF AGE		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100 Population	
South Carolina.	1	594,700	34.08	2 50
North Carolina	2	1,053,300	32.47	1 97
Alabama	3	823,100	30.69	1 39
Georgia	4	890,100	30 59	1 36
Utah	5	156,000	30 29	1 26
Mississippi	6	615,800	30 25	1 25
West Virginia	7	530,600	30.15	1 21
New Mexico	8	129,600	30.07	1 19
Arkansas	9	559,600	29 97	1 16
North Dakota.	10	204,600	29.87	1 13
Virginia..	11	719,700	29.56	1 02
Oklahoma	12	702,400	28 79	0 77
Kentucky	13	759,100	28 78	0 76
Louisiana	14	612,200	28.63	0 72
Idaho	15	127,900	28.61	0 71
Tennessee	16	757,500	28 58	0 70
South Dakota..	17	197,700	28.24	0 59
Texas	18	1,653,800	27.73	0 43
Arizona	19	120,800	26.96	0 17
Pennsylvania	20	2,585,700	26 54	0 04
Montana	21	141,349	26.27	-0 05
Nebraska	22	359,200	25 88	-0 17
Wyoming	23	59,100	25 81	-0 20
Minnesota	24	662,100	25 61	-0 26
Florida	25	391,100	25 60	-0 26
Kansas..	26	478,100	25.24	-0 38
Wisconsin	26	751,200	25.24	-0 38
Colorado	28	264,200	25.23	-0 38
Connecticut	29	412,000	25 21	-0 40
Iowa	30	616,800	24.88	-0 50
Rhode Island	31	173,100	24 80	-0 53
Michigan	32	1,233,800	24.76	-0 54
Maine	33	197,600	24.67	-0 57
Maryland	34	407,500	24.65	-0 58
Vermont...	35	88,000	24.44	-0 65
New Jersey	36	1,011,300	24.38	-0 67
Delaware.	37	58,200	24.25	-0 70
Indiana.	38	792,000	24.18	-0 73
Ohio...	39	1,631,700	24 16	-0 74
Massachusetts	39	1,014,600	24.16	-0 91
New Hampshire	41	110,400	23 59	-0 92
Missouri.	42	860,200	23.53	-0 94
Illinois...	43	1,795,000	23.11	-1 08
Washington	44	362,800	22.85	-1 17
Oregon.....	45	218,300	22.41	-1 31
New York.	46	2,844,500	22.13	-1 40
Nevada.....	47	19,400	20.86	-1 82
California	48	1,194,400	20.08	-2 07

\* Source U.S. Off. Educ., *Biennial Survey of Education, 1930-1932*, Bull. 1933, No. 2 (Wash. Govt. Print. Off., 1933), chap. i, p. 52.

Mean of people 5-17 years of age per 100 population (based on means of the 48 states), 25.60, standard deviation, 5.06; U.S. total, 32,031,549; U.S. people 5-17 years of age per 100 population (including District of Columbia), 26.09.



munity of the same size, they provide for only 200 pupils. If forty pupils are assigned to a teacher,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  teachers (actually 9) and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  rooms (actually 9) will have to be provided for the South Carolina community, whereas only five teachers and five rooms will have to be provided for the California community. The difficulties for South Carolina are further heightened by reason of the fact that separate facilities must be provided for two races. Yet greater complexities are presented in most rural communities, not only because their school populations per

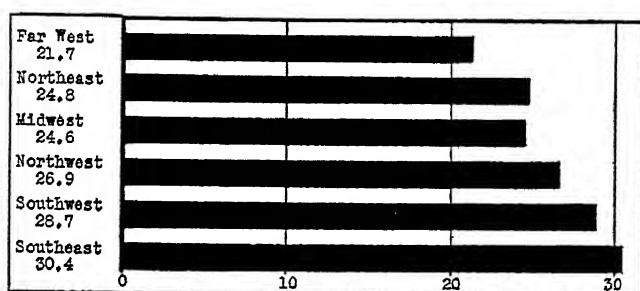


FIG. 95.—Regional summary of people 5-17 years of age per 100 population, 1930

1,000 total population are relatively larger than those of urban communities but also because transportation facilities have to be provided in the case of consolidated schools. The importance of these data will appear if Figure 94 (People 5-17 years of age per 100 population, 1930) is contrasted with Figure 50 (Index of public library development, 1934). In this comparison it is found that of the ten states having the highest library index, five are in the list of the ten states having the lowest number of persons 5-17 years of age per 100 population.

The full significance of this difference in number of children in the different population groups is further emphasized in Table 93, chapter xiii, which shows that in every 1,000 population in South Carolina, 506 persons are nineteen years of age, or under, while in California the number is only 304. It is also emphasized in data by Mr. Edwards, which show the ratio of children 7-13 years of age to 1,000 adults 20-64 years of age.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Newton Edwards, a professor of education at the University of Chicago, has made extensive computations of data of this character for the American Youth Commission.

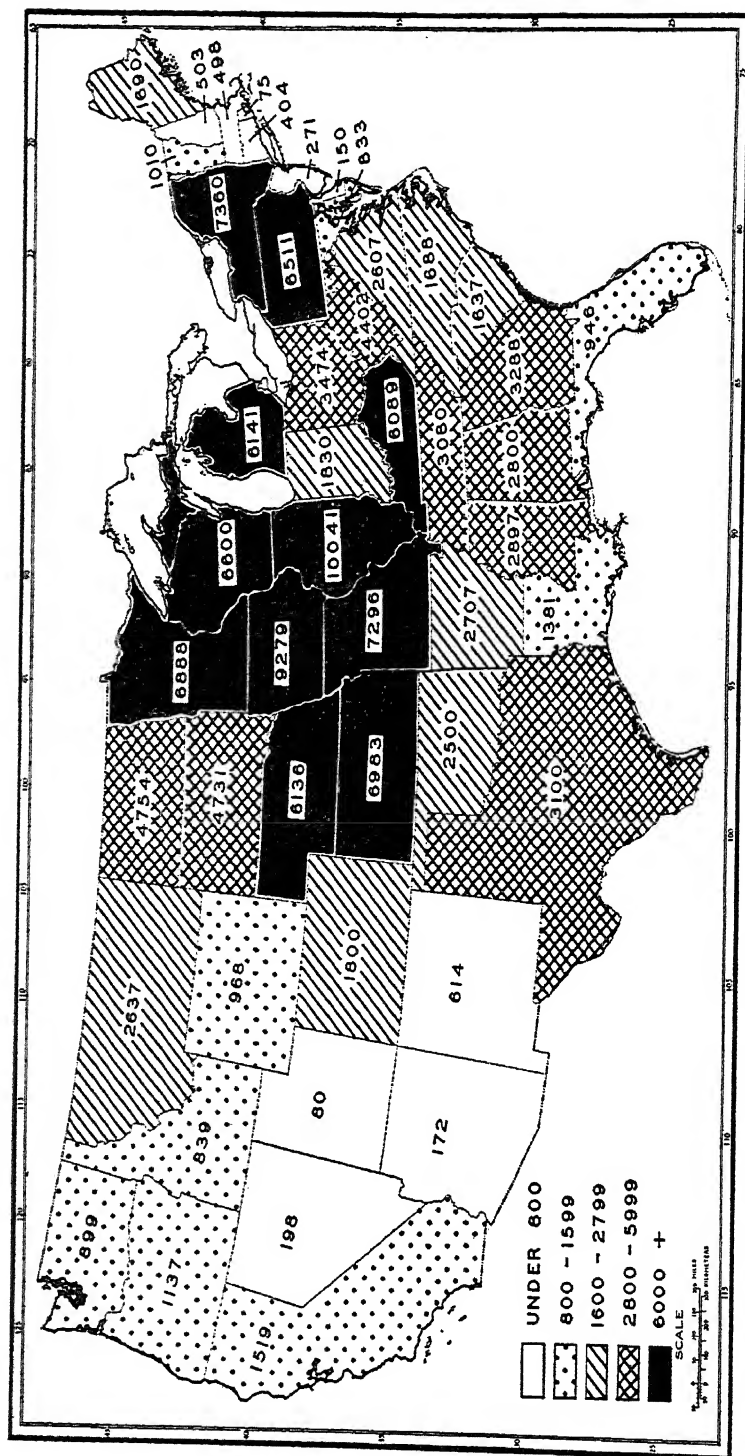


FIG. 96.—Number of one-room schools. Source: U.S. Office of Education, *Biennial Survey of Education, 1930-1932*, Bulletin 1933, No. 2 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1935), chap. i, p. 70. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

TABLE 79\*  
MEAN ANNUAL SALARY OF TEACHERS, SUPERVISORS,  
AND PRINCIPALS, 1931-32

State	Rank	Mean Annual Salary	Standard Score
New York.....	1	\$2,494	2.89
New Jersey .....	2	2,192	2.19
California....	3	2,189	2.18
Connecticut. ....	4	1,970	1.67
Massachusetts .....	5	1,845	1.38
Delaware....	6	1,631	0.87
Pennsylvania .....	7	1,630	0.87
Arizona ..	8	1,605	0.81
Rhode Island. ....	9	1,599	0.79
Illinois ....	10	1,598	0.79
Ohio ..	11	1,573	0.74
Washington. ....	12	1,553	0.70
Maryland....	13	1,523	0.62
Michigan ..	14	1,522	0.61
Indiana ..	15	1,497	0.56
Nevada ..	16	1,483	0.53
Oregon ..	17	1,439	0.43
Wisconsin ..	18	1,388	0.31
Colorado ..	19	1,386	0.30
Minnesota ..	20	1,305	0.11
New Hampshire ..	21	1,258	0.00
Wyoming ..	22	1,250	-0.02
Utah ..	23	1,239	-0.04
Missouri. ....	24	1,230	-0.06
Montana ..	25	1,184	-0.17
Idaho. ....	26	1,160	-0.23
Kansas....	27	1,123	-0.31
Oklahoma. ....	28	1,102	-0.36
Iowa ....	29	1,096	-0.38
New Mexico. ....	29	1,096	-0.38
West Virginia ..	31	1,085	-0.40
Nebraska. ....	32	1,051	-0.48
Maine. ....	33	952	-0.71
South Dakota. ....	34	944	-0.73
Vermont....	35	931	-0.76
Texas....	36	912	-0.80
North Dakota ..	37	900	-0.83
Louisiana. ....	38	895	-0.85
Florida.....	39	867	-0.91
Virginia ..	40	859	-0.93
Kentucky. ....	41	835	-0.99
Tennessee ..	42	826	-1.01
North Carolina ..	43	799	-1.07
Alabama....	44	710	-1.28
Georgia .....	45	690	-1.33
South Carolina ..	46	668	-1.38
Mississippi.....	47	655	-1.41
Arkansas....	48	593	-1.55

\* Source: U.S. Off. Educ., *Biennial Survey of Education, 1930-1932*, chap. i, p. 16.  
Mean annual salary (based on means of the 48 states), \$1,257; standard deviation, \$427.65, U.S. mean annual salary (including District of Columbia), \$1,417.

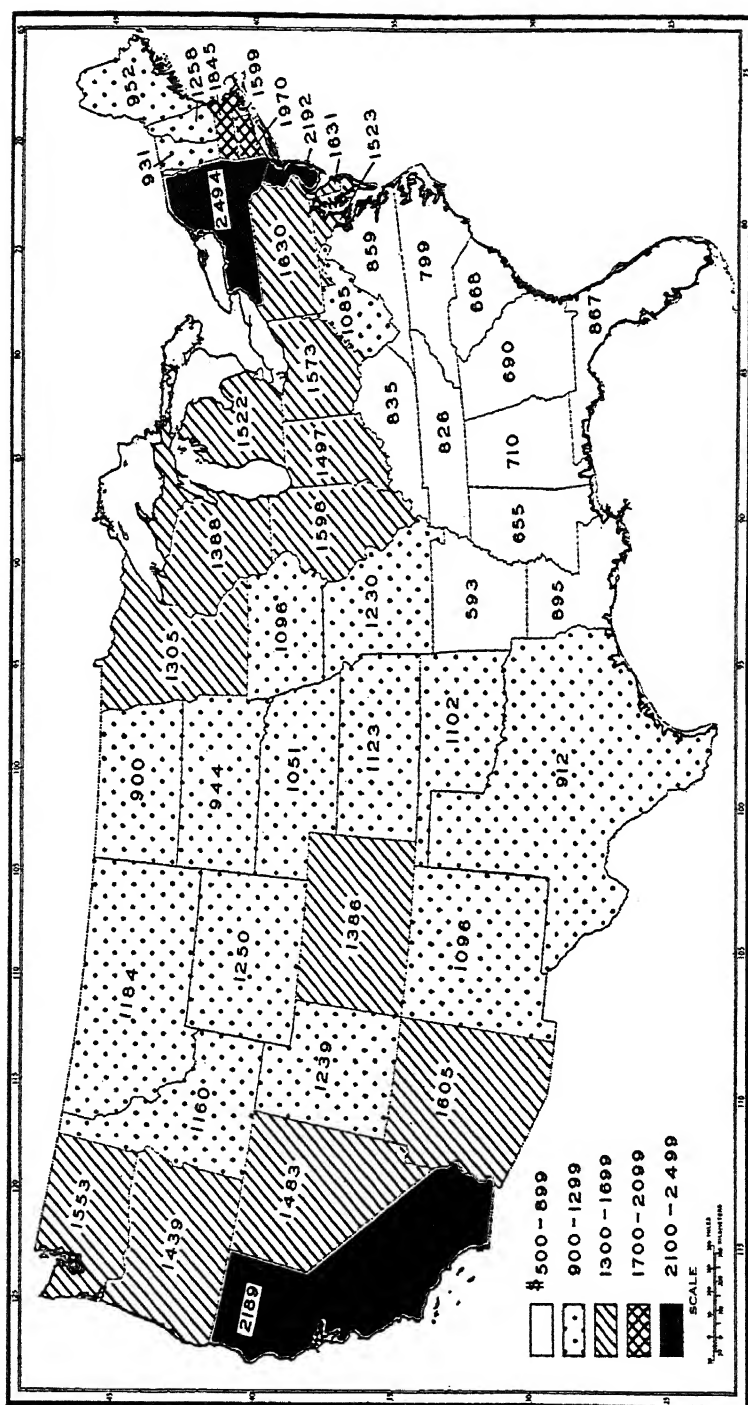


TABLE 80\*  
MEAN ANNUAL SALARY OF RURAL TEACHERS, SUPERVISORS,  
AND PRINCIPALS, 1931-32

State	Rank	Mean Annual Salary	Standard Score
Connecticut . . . . .	1	\$2,152	3 20
California . . . . .	2	2,143	3.18
New Jersey . . . . .	3	1,637	1.78
New York . . . . .	4	1,511	1.43
Arizona . . . . .	5	1,498	1 39
Nevada . . . . .	6	1,372	1 05
Delaware . . . . .	7	1,364	1.02
Indiana . . . . .	8	1,249	0 71
Washington . . . . .	9	1,238	0.68
Maryland . . . . .	10	1,218	0.62
Pennsylvania . . . . .	11	1,161	0 46
Oregon . . . . .	12	1,151	0 43
Idaho . . . . .	13	1,072	0 22
Wyoming . . . . .	14	1,069	0 21
Montana . . . . .	15	1,061	0 19
New Hampshire . . . . .	16	1,052	0.16
Wisconsin . . . . .	17	1,043	0 14
Utah . . . . .	18	1,034	0.11
Ohio . . . . .	19	1,028	0.09
Michigan . . . . .	20	1,025	0 08
Illinois . . . . .	21	1,017	0 06
Massachusetts . . . . .	22	1,013	0.05
Colorado . . . . .	23	1,008	0 04
New Mexico . . . . .	24	998	0 01
West Virginia . . . . .	25	956	-0 10
Oklahoma . . . . .	26	955	-0 11
Kansas . . . . .	27	949	-0.12
Minnesota . . . . .	28	938	-0.15
Iowa . . . . .	29	913	-0 22
South Dakota . . . . .	30	861	-0 36
Nebraska . . . . .	31	859	-0 37
North Dakota . . . . .	32	833	-0.44
Vermont . . . . .	33	785	-0.53
Missouri . . . . .	34	774	-0 61
Maine . . . . .	35	771	-0 62
North Carolina . . . . .	36	702	-0.81
Tennessee . . . . .	37	695	-0 83
Louisiana . . . . .	38	672	-0.89
Kentucky . . . . .	39	663	-0 91
Virginia . . . . .	40	653	-0 94
Texas . . . . .	41	650	-0.95
Florida . . . . .	42	623	-1.02
Rhode Island . . . . .	43	604	-1 07
Mississippi . . . . .	44	602	-1 08
Alabama . . . . .	45	588	-1.12
South Carolina . . . . .	46	560	-1 20
Georgia . . . . .	47	492	-1.39
Arkansas . . . . .	48	485	-1 41

\* Source: U.S. Off. Educ., *Biennial Survey of Education, 1930-1932*, chap. i, p. 107.

Mean annual salary (based on means of the 48 states), \$994; standard deviation, \$361.66; U.S. mean annual salary (including District of Columbia), \$930.



If a comparison on this basis is made between Leslie County, Kentucky, and San Francisco County, California, both representing extremes, it appears that the ratio of children in the former is practically five times greater than in the latter. For each 1,000 adults in the former there are 560 children, while in the latter the number of children drops to 117.

#### NUMBER OF ONE-ROOM SCHOOLS

In spite of all the effort that has been made to improve the status of the rural school through school consolidation, state aid to schools, and highway development, there were still in

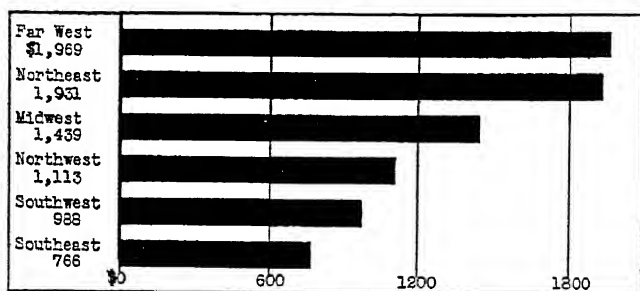


FIG. 98.—Regional summary of mean annual salary of teachers, supervisors, and principals, 1931-32.

the United States 143,445 one-room schools in 1932.<sup>5</sup> For educator and librarian alike, they still constitute a most difficult educational problem. Figure 96 shows their total number by states with their high concentration in New York and Pennsylvania and the Upper Mississippi and Great Lakes sections. Library service to such schools obviously constitutes a special problem, the solution of which seems necessarily to rest upon some form of county service provided co-operatively through a county library or through the office of the county superintendent of public instruction. The regional library might also be considered as having a contribution to make in providing

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Office of Education, *Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1930-1932*, Bulletin 1933, No. 2 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1935), chap. i, p. 70.

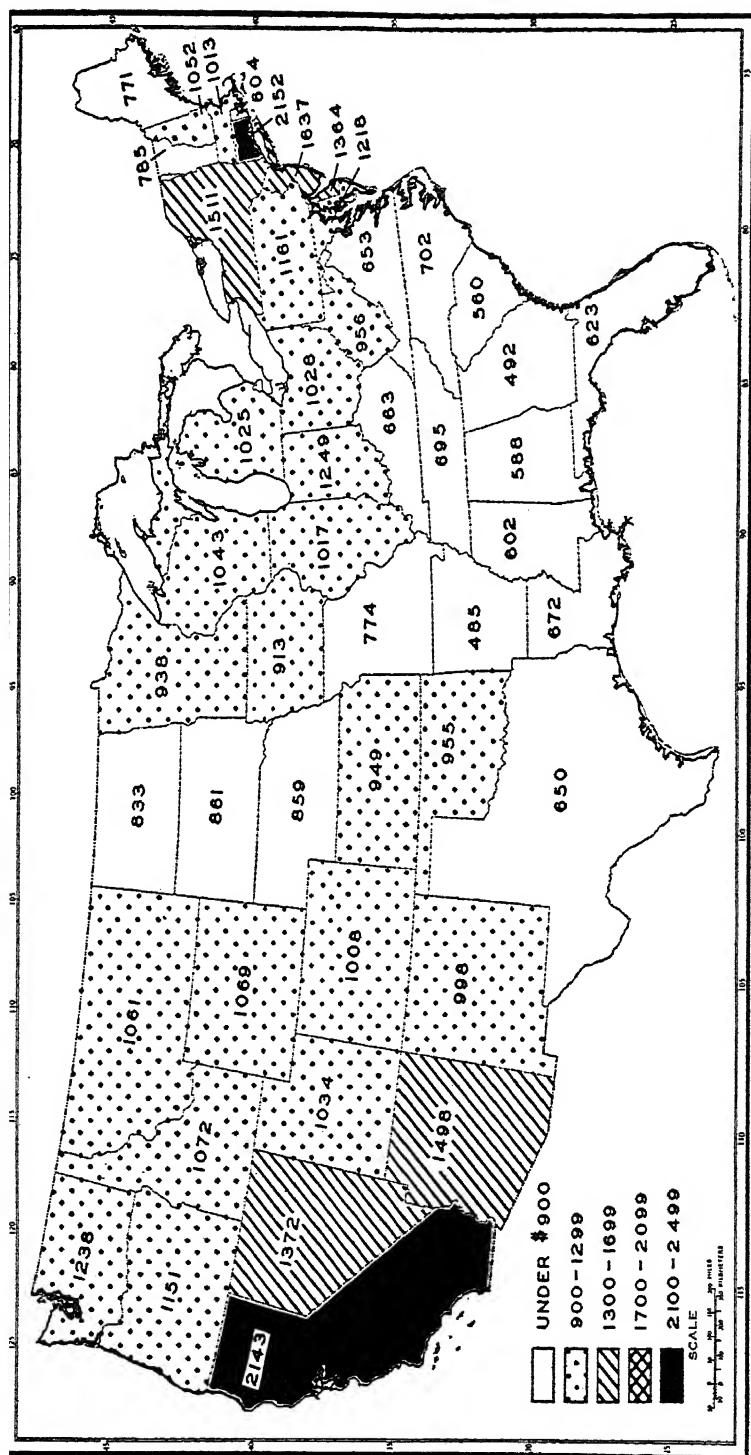


FIG. 99.—Mean annual salary of rural teachers, supervisors, and principals, 1931-32. Source: Same as for Table 80. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

service of this character. The existence of so many one-room schools accounts in part for the lack of libraries in the large per cent of schools reported in chapter vi.

#### DIFFERENCES BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL SALARIES

Two other general factors which require further analysis are the differences between urban and rural school salaries and differences in expenditures for schools for whites and Negroes in those states in which separation of races is mandatory. Two sets of data relating to differences in salaries are presented in Tables 79 and 80 and Figures 97, 98, 99, and 100.

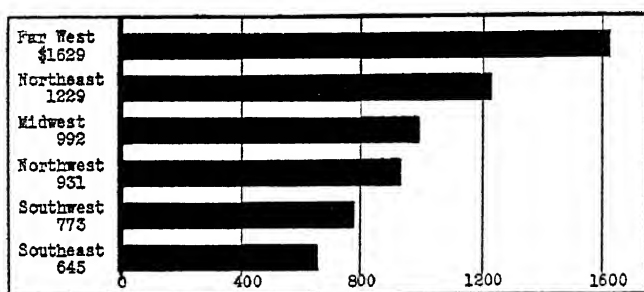


FIG. 100.—Regional summary of mean annual salary of rural teachers, supervisors, and principals, 1931-32.

#### DIFFERENCES IN SUPPORT OF WHITE AND NEGRO SCHOOLS

The disparity between support for white and Negro schools in those states in which the separation of the races is mandatory has frequently been noted. Figure 101, reproduced from a recent publication issued by the Julius Rosenwald Fund, entitled *School Money in Black and White*,<sup>6</sup> graphically portrays this difference. According to this publication, the average annual school expenditure for every pupil throughout the nation in 1930 was \$99.00; for white children in the South it was \$44.31; for Negro children, \$12.57. Georgia spent an average of \$33.42 for each white pupil, and \$6.38 for each Negro. The average expenditure for Negroes in Mississippi dropped still lower to

<sup>6</sup> Julius Rosenwald Fund, *School Money in Black and White* (Chicago: Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1935).

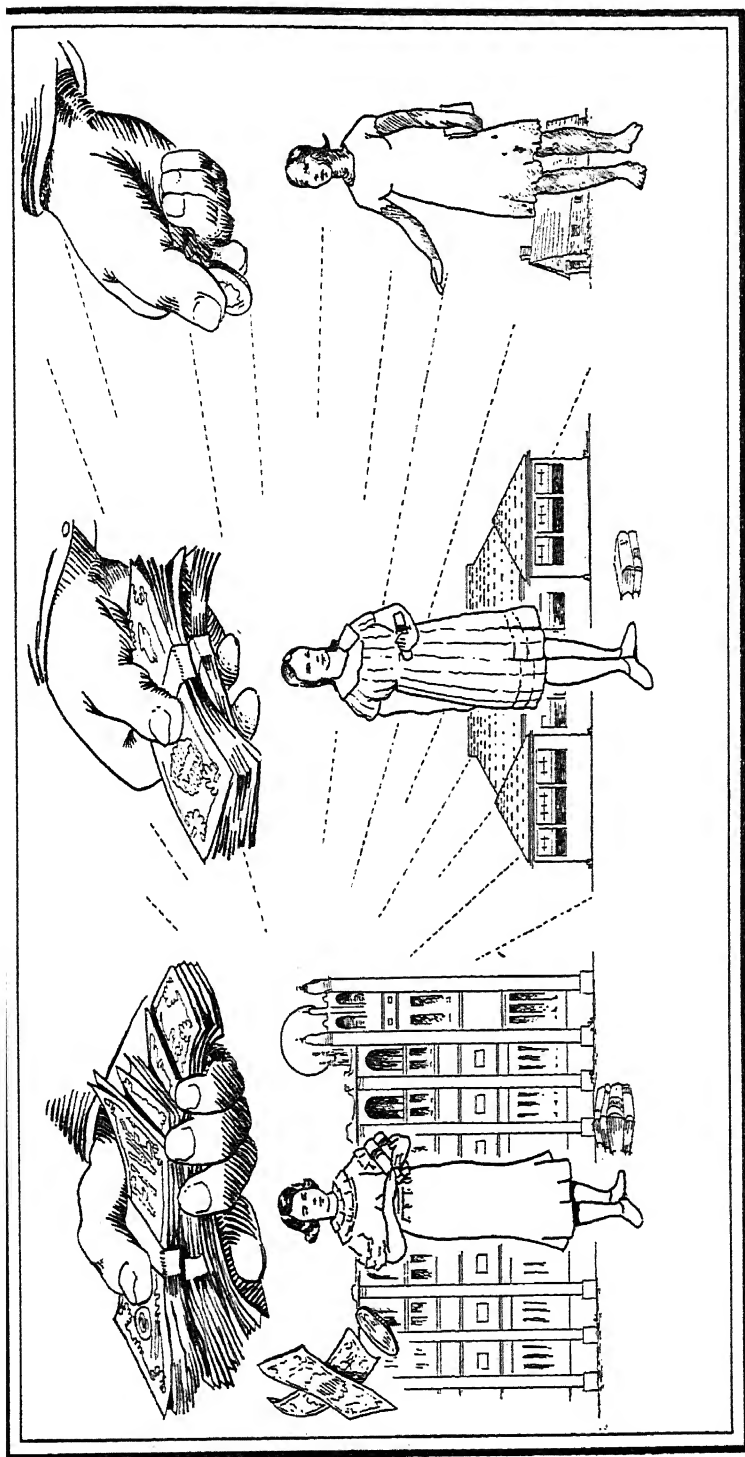


FIG. 101.—School money in black and white. Source: Julius Rosenwald Fund, *School Money in Black and White* (Chicago: Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1935).

TABLE 81\*  
MEAN ANNUAL COST OF EDUCATION PER CAPITA  
POPULATION, 1931-32

State	Rank	Cost	Standard Score
New York. . . . .	1	\$26 85	1 78
Delaware . . . . .	2	26.40	1 70
New Jersey . . . . .	3	26 34	1 69
Nevada. . . . .	4	26 23	1 67
Wyoming . . . . .	5	25 35	1 52
California . . . . .	6	25 19	1 49
Colorado . . . . .	7	22 64	1 05
Montana . . . . .	8	21 94	0 93
Arizona. . . . .	9	20 56	0 69
Connecticut. . . . .	10	20 42	0 66
Rhode Island. . . . .	11	20 25	0 64
South Dakota . . . . .	11	20 25	0 64
Michigan . . . . .	13	20 11	0 61
Massachusetts. . . . .	14	20 05	0 60
North Dakota . . . . .	15	19 61	0 52
Washington. . . . .	16	19 32	0 47
Idaho. . . . .	17	19 30	0 47
Minnesota . . . . .	18	19 20	0 45
Pennsylvania. . . . .	19	18 34	0.30
Ohio . . . . .	20	18 20	0 28
Illinois. . . . .	21	18.03	0 25
Utah . . . . .	22	18 01	0 25
Iowa . . . . .	23	18 00	0 25
Nebraska. . . . .	24	17 86	0 22
Wisconsin . . . . .	25	17 80	0.21
Indiana . . . . .	26	17 70	0 19
Kansas . . . . .	27	17.63	0 18
Oregon. . . . .	28	17.61	0 18
New Mexico . . . . .	29	15 71	-0 15
Maryland. . . . .	30	15 61	-0 17
New Hampshire . . . . .	31	15 25	-0 23
West Virginia. . . . .	32	14 50	-0.36
Missouri . . . . .	33	13 69	-0 50
Texas . . . . .	34	13 21	-0.59
Maine. . . . .	35	13.07	-0 61
Vermont . . . . .	36	12 97	-0 63
Oklahoma . . . . .	37	11.80	-0.83
Florida. . . . .	38	11.14	-0.95
Louisiana. . . . .	39	9.65	-1.20
North Carolina. . . . .	40	9.28	-1 27
Virginia . . . . .	41	9.11	-1.30
Mississippi. . . . .	42	8.85	-1.34
Tennessee. . . . .	43	8.31	-1.44
Kentucky. . . . .	44	8.25	-1 45
South Carolina . . . . .	45	7.16	-1 64
Alabama. . . . .	46	6 78	-1 70
Georgia. . . . .	47	6.59	-1.74
Arkansas . . . . .	48	6.24	-1.80

\* Source: U.S. Off. Educ., *Biennial Survey of Education, 1930-1932*, chap. i, p. 91.

Mean cost per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$16.59; standard deviation, \$5.76, U.S. median, \$17.83; U.S. mean cost per capita (including District of Columbia), \$17.31.

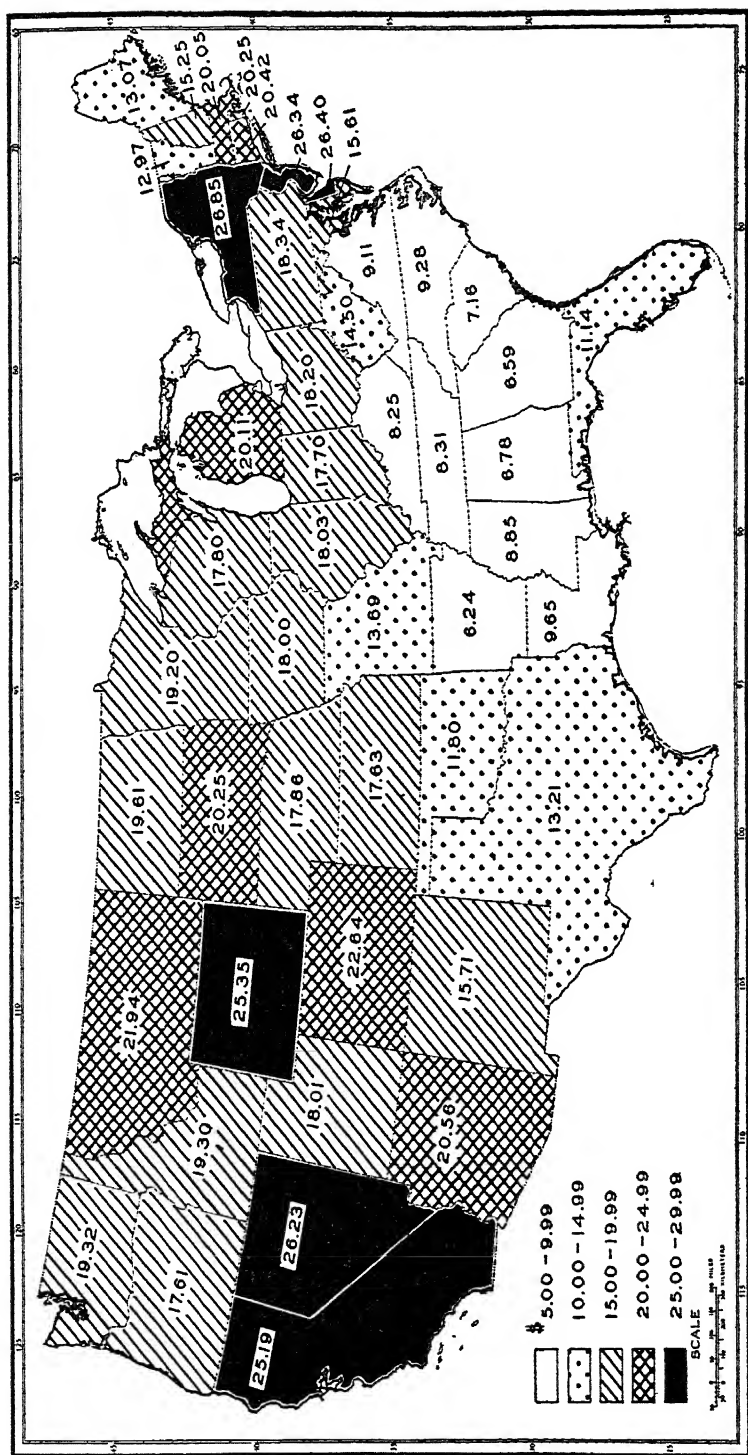


FIG. 102.—Mean annual cost of education per capita population, 1931-32. Source: Same as for Table 81. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)



\$5.45. The mean annual per capita cost per total population as contrasted with the mean annual expenditure per pupil, is shown in Table 81 and Figures 102 and 103. The range is from \$26.85 in New York to \$6.24 in Arkansas. The data fail to indicate the differences in per capita costs for schools by races. If they were analyzed on this basis, however, a difference unfavorable to Negroes would be shown in those states in which the separation of school facilities is mandatory.

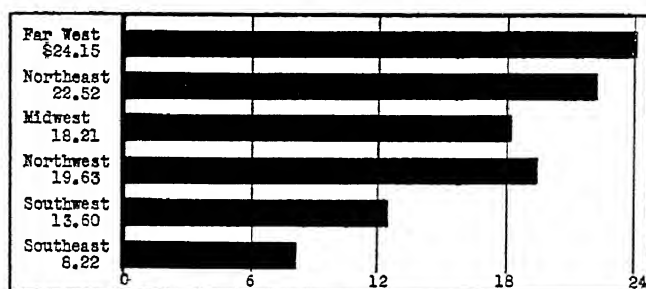


FIG. 103.—Regional summary of mean annual cost of education per capita population, 1931-32.

#### MANDATORY VERSUS PERMISSIVE SUPPORT

In concluding this chapter dealing with the status of the school as contrasted with that of the library, reference should again be made to the fundamental difference of attitude held by the state as to school and library support. Except in Michigan, state support of libraries is not mandatory, but permissive; and although the state has, in many instances, aided directly in both promotion and support, the principle of responsibility for the support of a state-wide system of public libraries has not yet been accepted. In the case of the school, support is not only mandatory, but equalizing funds are usually provided to guarantee a certain quality of school service. In North Carolina, for example, the support of an eight-month school throughout the entire state is borne by the state. Local communities can extend the length of the term or increase the amount paid for salaries fixed by the state only upon compliance with regulations administered by a state educational commis-

sion.<sup>7</sup> The differences in school and library coverage and quality of service may, therefore, be largely attributed to this one important fact.

#### SUMMARY

The data in this chapter reveal a decided parallelism as well as several significant differences in the relative development of libraries and schools throughout the nation. In general, the two indices of development seem very similar. Twenty-two states are in the same interval. In nineteen the variation is only one interval; in six states it is two, and in one state three. In the Far West libraries and schools alike are above the national average, while in the Southeast and Southwest, with only one exception in fifteen states, both are below. In these three regions, and throughout the country generally, the map of educational development presents a striking resemblance to that of the growth of libraries. Both schools and libraries reflect the impact of high per cents of illiterates and of persons 5-17 years of age in the population, of one-room school houses, and of the disparity in support of facilities provided for two races.

Over against this parallelism, however, must be noted the fact that illiteracy, the one-room school, and the disparity in support of institutions for Negroes affect the maintenance of adequate libraries more adversely than they affect schools. In the case of schools the state requires provision to be made for their support, whereas, the provision of libraries is permissive. The state sees to it that instruction of a given quality is furnished to all persons within certain age limits, irrespective of their place of residence or economic status. The library, on the contrary, may be maintained by the locality, provided the locality wishes to support it. In this significant respect the importance of the library as an educational agency has not received the recognition and support universally accorded the school.

<sup>7</sup> North Carolina General Assembly, *Public Laws and Resolutions* (Charlotte: Observer Printing House, Inc., 1933), chap. 282, sec. ix, p. 413.

## CHAPTER XII

### ADULT EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES AND OTHER CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

THE nineteenth century witnessed the rise and growth in the United States of the lyceum, the woman's club, the university extension movement, the art museum, and the public library. Within that period they became a part of the nation's cultural inheritance. The twentieth century has added to the list of these organizations and institutions, has tremendously increased their membership, and also their range in both formal and informal educational activities.

Three major influences have contributed to this development in the field of adult education since 1900. The World War was the first. At that time the whole United States awoke to the consciousness that there was a world in which it had to play an entirely new part, and about which it was abysmally ignorant. The depression has served as a second great schoolmaster. No section of the country, no population group, no institution, no industry failed to be affected by this major disaster. All have been forced to readjust their thinking in order to meet the new situations in which they have found themselves. During these two periods the automobile, the moving picture, the radio, the magazine, and the daily newspaper have accelerated the communication of ideas, thus bringing the entire population into a great consolidated school, as it were, through which common understanding has increasingly spread.

In this situation there has come into being a new agency, the American Association for Adult Education. For twelve years it has enabled individual organizations and institutions to express their common interest in many phases of the changing civilization to which they belong, and to formulate pro-

cedures aimed toward a better understanding of the environment in which they have found themselves. The association has served them as an informal co-ordinator, it has expressed for them a general philosophy, or it has supplied them with a body of common objectives which has enhanced their individual and collective effectiveness.

The purpose of this chapter is not to consider the events which have given the nation this new point of view; nor is it to describe the organizations and institutions which have striven in various ways to understand more fully some aspect of the present social order or of the national cultural pattern. On the contrary, the purpose is to show with a minimum of comment, or by tables and charts alone, how certain of these organizations are distributed throughout the United States and what relationship their distribution bears to that of the library which strives to serve them.

The library has always been aware of its direct relationship to schools. Its service to them, either directly, or through co-operative or contractual agreements, has been one of its most distinctive features. As has been shown in the preceding chapter, it receives best support where schools are well supported, and in recent years there has been a consistent effort on the part of both teachers and librarians so to organize library resources as to make them significant in the attainment of the school's objectives.

That there has been a corresponding relationship between the library and other organizations having educational or cultural aims is true, though the evidences have possibly not been so numerous or so apparent. There has also been a difference in the way in which the library has attempted to serve such organizations. In the case of the school, the library undertakes to give service by making materials available to such units as schools, classrooms, or groups of teachers, as well as to individual students. But in the case of other organizations the primary tendency has been to meet the demands of individual members rather than the demands of the organizations as uni-

fied groups. The contractual relationship, consequently, has been effected only occasionally between the library and the adult educational council of the city, the federated or individual women's club, or the parent-teachers association, for example.

In two instances, however, the library has been very directly associated with such organizations and has contributed largely to the effectiveness of both. The American Association of Adult Education, which was organized in 1926, is one of these.<sup>1</sup> At the time of this association's organization, librarians had long been engaged in promoting informal education through reading lists and assistance to readers interested in special subjects of study. A number of libraries had established the position of readers' adviser; others had organized their general service, or certain parts of it, by departments on a subject-matter basis; and the American Library Association had begun the publication of its notable "Reading with a Purpose" series.

Upon the establishment of the former association, the American Library Association appointed a Board on Adult Education and the Library, and a Committee on Readable Books. Since then, libraries in general have increasingly undertaken to serve adult educational organizations. In a number of cities the library has furnished headquarters for the local council on adult education, some member of the staff has served as its secretary, library rooms have been made available for the meetings of study groups, libraries have sent staff members to meetings to supply books and book lists, special shelves of reference material have been provided, talks concerning books and library resources on special subjects have been broadcast, and in many other ways the library has consciously met the requirements of organized groups as well as the demands of individual members.

<sup>1</sup> The activities of this organization are so wide in their extent and so varied in their nature that no attempt at description is undertaken here. For admirable statements concerning the organizations see: American Association for Adult Education, *Handbook of Adult Education in the United States, 1934; 1936* (New York: American Association for Adult Education, 1934; 1936); and M. A. Cartwright, *Ten Years of Adult Education* (New York: Macmillan Company, 1935).

TABLE 82\*

ENROLMENT PER 10,000 POPULATION IN ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES  
ORGANIZED UNDER THE PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM, 1933

STATE	RANK	ENROLMENT		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 10,000 Population	
California	1	316,603	557.7	4 68
Kentucky	2	100,000	382.5	2 99
Delaware.	3	5,959	250.0	1.70
Wisconsin	4	58,869	200.3	1.23
Massachusetts	5	82,708	194.6	1 17
Rhode Island	6	12,490	181.7	1 05
Pennsylvania	7	174,000	180.7	1 04
New York	8	225,510	179 1	1 02
New Jersey	9	49,015	121 3	0 46
Connecticut	10	16,440	102 3	0 28
Ohio	11	62,313	93.8	0 20
Maryland	12	14,586	89.4	0 16
Illinois	13	67,074	87.9	0.14
Michigan	14	38,524	79.6	0 06
Indiana	15	21,952	67.8	-0.05
Missouri	16	20,537	56.6	-0 16
Louisiana	17	11,014	52 4	-0.20
South Carolina	18	8,999	51.8	-0 21
Iowa	19	11,382	46 1	-0 26
Maine	20	3,598	45.1	-0.27
New Hampshire	21	2,014	43.3	-0 29
Wyoming	22	912	40.4	-0.32
Colorado	23	3,964	38.3	-0.34
Oregon	24	3,017	31.6	-0.40
Kansas	25	5,720	30.4	-0 41
Florida	26	4,401	30.0	-0.42
Arizona	27	1,278	29.3	-0 43
Georgia	28	8,141	28.0	-0.44
Virginia	29	6,244	25 9	-0 46
Utah	30	1,204	23.7	-0 48
Texas	31	12,227	21.0	-0 51
Alabama	32	5,178	19.6	-0.52
New Mexico	33	776	18.3	-0.53
Washington	34	2,580	16.5	-0.55
Minnesota	35	3,865	15.1	-0.56
Arkansas	36	2,255	12.2	-0.59
Vermont	37	394	10.9	-0 60
Nevada	38	92	10.1	-0.61
Montana	39	434	8.1	-0.63
West Virginia	40	1,351	7.8	-0 63
South Dakota	41	524	7.6	-0.63
Tennessee	42	1,913	7.3	-0.64
Nebraska	43	899	6 5	-0 65
Oklahoma	44	1,455	6.1	-0.65
North Dakota	45	339	5.0	-0.66
Idaho	46	176	4.0	-0.67
North Carolina	47	712	2 2	-0.69
Mississippi	48	188	0.9	-0.70

\* Source: Compiled from Amer. Assoc. Adult Educ., *Handbook of Adult Education in the United States*, 1934 (N.Y.: Amer. Assoc. Adult Educ., 1934), pp. 161-74.

Mean per 10,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 73.3; standard deviation, 103.47  
U.S. total, 1,389,902; U.S. enrolment per 10,000 population (including District of Columbia), 113 21.

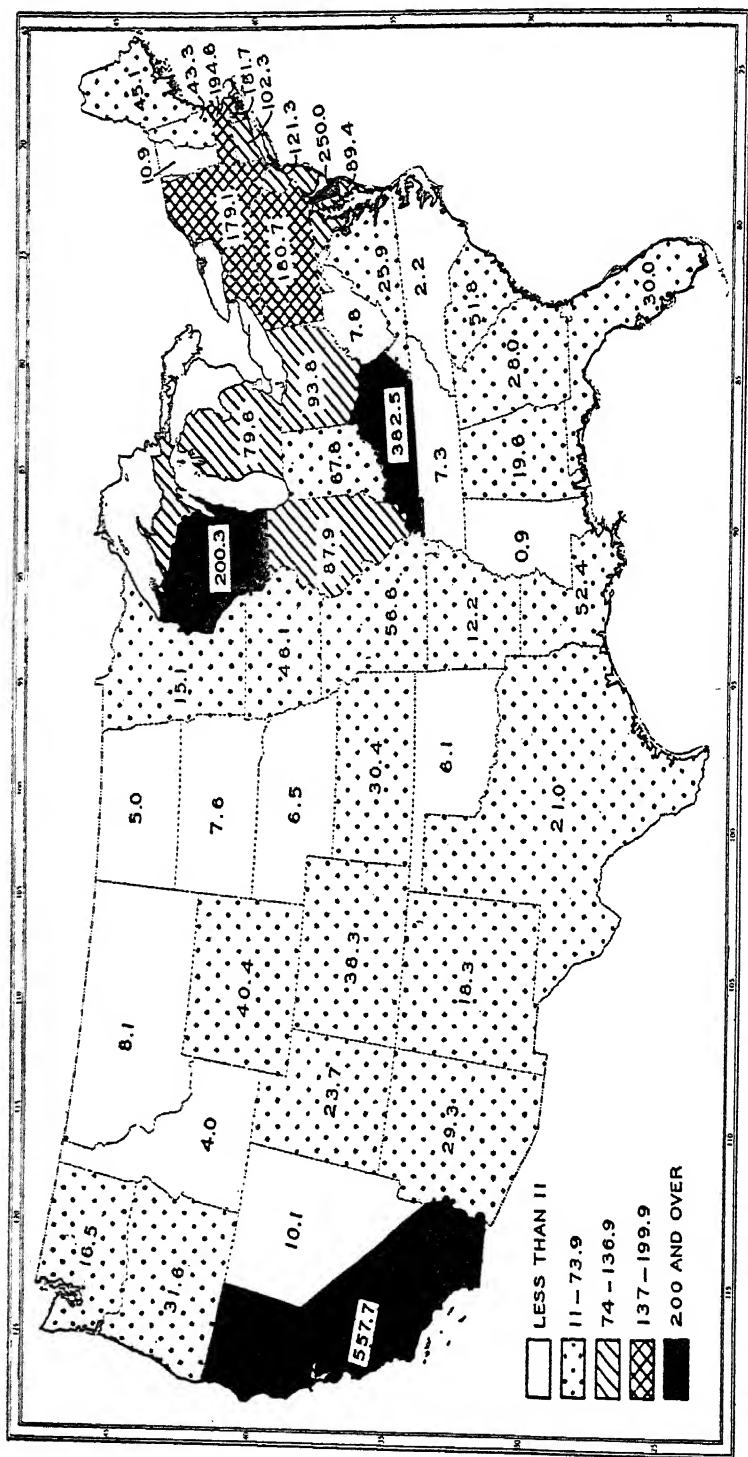


FIG. 104.—Enrollment per 10,000 population in adult education classes organized under the public education system, 1933. Source: Same as for Table 82. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

The second organization with which the library has been very closely connected is the National Federation of Women's Clubs, to which, in hundreds of instances, libraries owe their establishment and much of their continued support. The interest of the clubs has been so great, and their support so constant, that in chapter xiv they are listed among the causal factors which have contributed to the extension of library service in America.

The relationship between the library and other organizations has not been so direct, but it has been nonetheless extensive and real. Where certain kinds of clubs, professional organiza-



FIG. 105.—Regional summary of enrolment per 10,000 population in adult education classes organized under the public education system, 1933.

tions, and study groups are strongest, the library, likewise, has been correspondingly well developed and renders its best service. In a sense, the library may well be regarded as an index of the status of a community's educational and cultural organization.

#### ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES ORGANIZED UNDER THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

For a number of years the public schools in many parts of the country have enrolled students in evening and other special classes, outside their regular day program. The studies pursued have been largely of a vocational nature. Table 82 and Figures 104 and 105 show in which states and regions this enrolment is heaviest. The data are for 1933, before the effects of the depression on the enrolment in high schools and in the emergency adult



TABLE 83\*

ENROLMENT PER 1,000 POPULATION IN F.E.R.A. EDUCATION  
PROGRAMS, MARCH, 1936

STATE	RANK	STUDENTS ENROLLED		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 1,000 Population	
Florida...	1	47,844	32.6	2.45
Washington ..	2	50,852	32.5	2.44
Georgia ..	3	87,009	29.9	2.10
Mississippi. .	4	51,149	25.4	1.51
Vermont....	5	9,118	25.3	1.50
Utah ..	6	12,414	24.4	1.38
Idaho.....	7	10,371	23.3	1.24
Colorado... .	8	23,844	23.1	1.20
Kentucky... .	9	58,496	22.4	1.12
Louisiana... .	10	43,989	20.9	0.93
Virginia.....	11	44,012	18.2	0.57
Rhode Island ..	12	11,617	16.9	0.40
Wyoming.....	13	3,782	16.7	0.38
South Carolina.	14	28,943	16.6	0.37
Missouri... .	15	59,814	16.5	0.35
Ohio.....	16	106,129	16.0	0.29
West Virginia.	16	27,630	16.0	0.29
Minnesota... .	18	38,382	15.0	0.16
Arkansas... .	19	27,542	14.9	0.14
New Mexico... .	20	6,131	14.5	0.09
Arizona ...	21	5,574	12.8	-0.13
South Dakota... .	22	8,730	12.6	-0.16
North Dakota ...	23	8,481	12.5	-0.17
Pennsylvania ...	23	120,394	12.5	-0.17
Kansas.....	25	22,622	12.0	-0.23
Tennessee... .	26	30,222	11.6	-0.29
Nevada ..	27	1,046	11.5	-0.30
Oregon....	28	10,917	11.4	-0.31
New York... .	29	132,239	10.5	-0.43
Nebraska... .	30	14,276	10.4	-0.44
New Hampshire..	31	4,803	10.3	-0.46
Massachusetts... .	32	40,496	9.5	-0.56
Texas.....	33	51,206	8.8	-0.65
North Carolina.....	34	27,268	8.6	-0.68
California.....	35	48,386	8.5	-0.69
New Jersey ...	36	33,443	8.3	-0.72
Wisconsin... .	37	23,847	8.1	-0.74
Maryland... .	38	11,897	7.3	-0.85
Illinois...	39	54,542	7.1	-0.87
Indiana ..	40	22,013	6.8	-0.91
Alabama ..	41	17,783	6.7	-0.93
Michigan... .	42	26,742	5.5	-1.08
Iowa.....	43	10,742	4.3	-1.24
Maine... .	44	2,677	3.4	-1.36
Montana.....	45	1,681	3.1	-1.40
Oklahoma.....	46	6,170	2.6	-1.46
Connecticut.....	47	3,188	2.0	-1.54

\* Source: Correspondence from U.S. F.E.R.A., Div. of Statistics, 1936.

Mean per 1,000 population (based on means of the 47 states), 13.8; standard deviation, 7.66, U.S. total, 1,490,635; U.S. enrolment per 1,000 population (including District of Columbia), 12.14.

Delaware had no program.

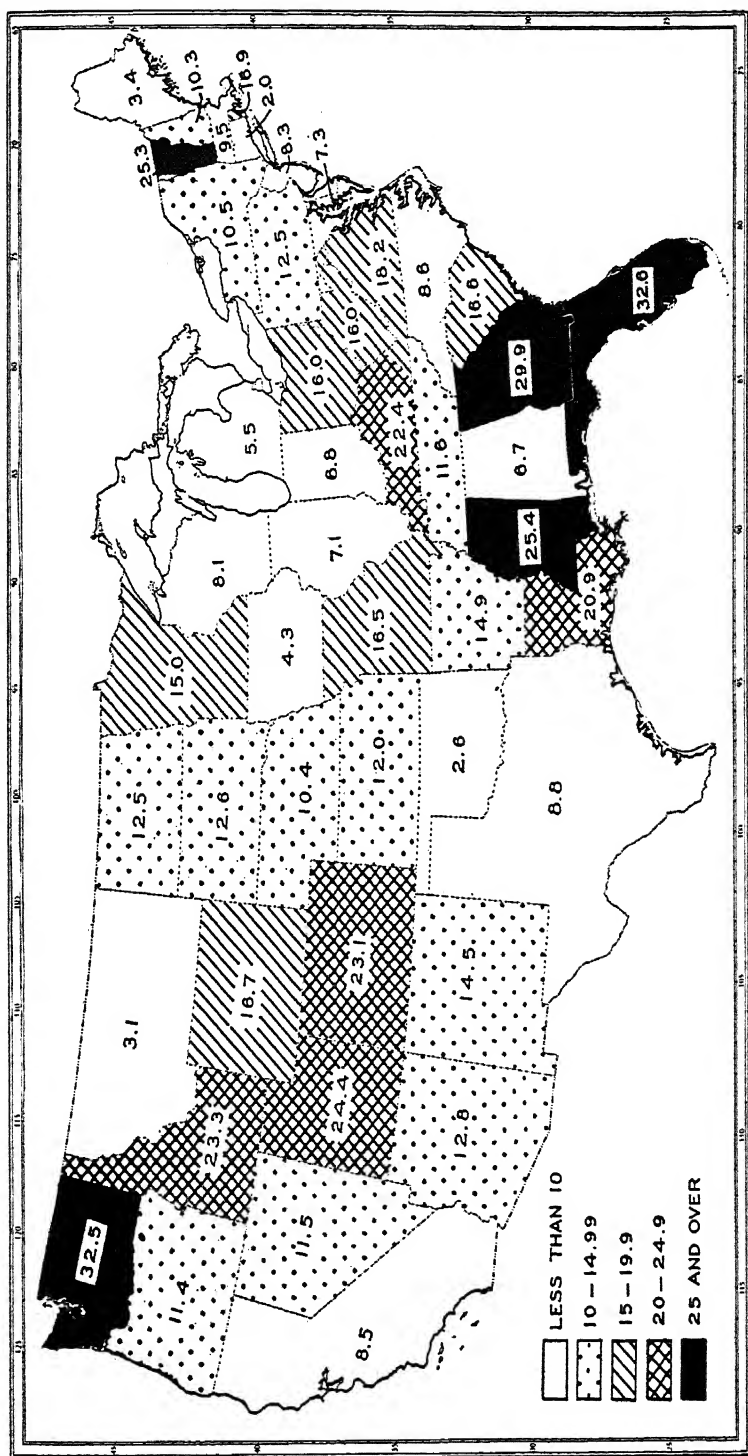


FIG. 106.—Enrolment per 1,000 population in F.E.R.A. education programs, March, 1936. Source: Same as for Table 83. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

educational programs of the federal government changed what until then had been the normal situation. The Far West stands high above the other regions, with California emphasizing this kind of instruction in a marked manner.<sup>2</sup> The range of students enrolled per 10,000 population is from 557.7 in California to 0.9 in Mississippi, or a ratio of 619 to 1.

#### FEDERAL EMERGENCY ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

When the effects of the depression became most pronounced in 1933, the federal government inaugurated an extensive program of adult education which at various times since has

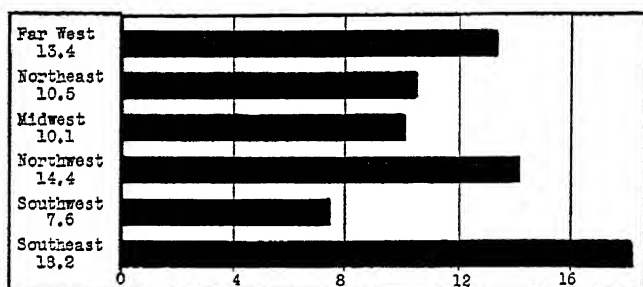


FIG. 107.—Regional summary of enrolment per 1,000 population in F.E.R.A. education programs, March, 1936.

simultaneously involved as many as 1,500,000 people and 40,000 teachers. The program, when organized under the supervision of the public schools, included six forms of education: (1) illiteracy education, (2) general adult education, (3) parent education, (4) workers' education, (5) vocational education, and (6) vocational rehabilitation. It differed from the regular program of the schools in that the subjects were much less vocational and the teachers were selected on the basis of need of relief.<sup>3</sup> The number and distribution of persons enrolled in

<sup>2</sup> For full descriptions see: J. W. Studebaker, "Adult Education under Public School Auspices," American Association for Adult Education, *Handbook*, 1936, pp. 167-69; E. deS. Brunner and Irving Lorge, *Rural Trends in Depression Years* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1937), pp. 204-48.

<sup>3</sup> E. M. Danton, "The Federal Emergency Adult Education Program," American Association for Adult Education, *Handbook*, 1936, pp. 28-53; Brunner and Lorge, *op. cit.*, chap. ix.

classes organized in this way is shown in Table 83 and in Figures 106 and 107. The Southeast was the recipient of the greatest amount of assistance from this source. The most significant facts connected with the program have been (1) that the number of adult students suddenly enrolled in this way equaled or exceeded the total enrolment of all the colleges and universities in the country; (2) that the teachers were employed on the basis of their need for relief rather than for their proficiency as teachers of adults; (3) that the nature and range of the courses offered were very much more liberal and extensive than the more vocational program of the public school; and (4) that many of the teachers thus employed developed new methods and materials for the effective teaching of adults.

#### ADULT EDUCATION ACTIVITIES OF THE U.S.

##### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The federal government has long carried on through its widespread agricultural extension service an extensive program of education in which, in 1936, 8,732 trained home and farm demonstration and other agents were engaged.<sup>4</sup> In addition to these leaders, there are 400,000 or more voluntary workers involved in the service, who have been trained to direct meetings and lead discussions concerning various aspects of rural life. Those states and regions which are most rural have naturally the greatest number of these workers. Altogether it is estimated that 6,000,000 people are involved in the educational program of this service.

Prior to the depression, this service was concerned primarily with agricultural, vocational, and domestic subjects; and the land-grant colleges and farm and home demonstration agents who directed it depended largely upon publications of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the land-grant colleges, and state departments of agriculture to supplement the educational as-

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Office of Cooperative Extension Work, "Number of Extension Workers, February 29, 1936" (Planographed; Washington: U.S. Office of Cooperative Extension Work, 1936).

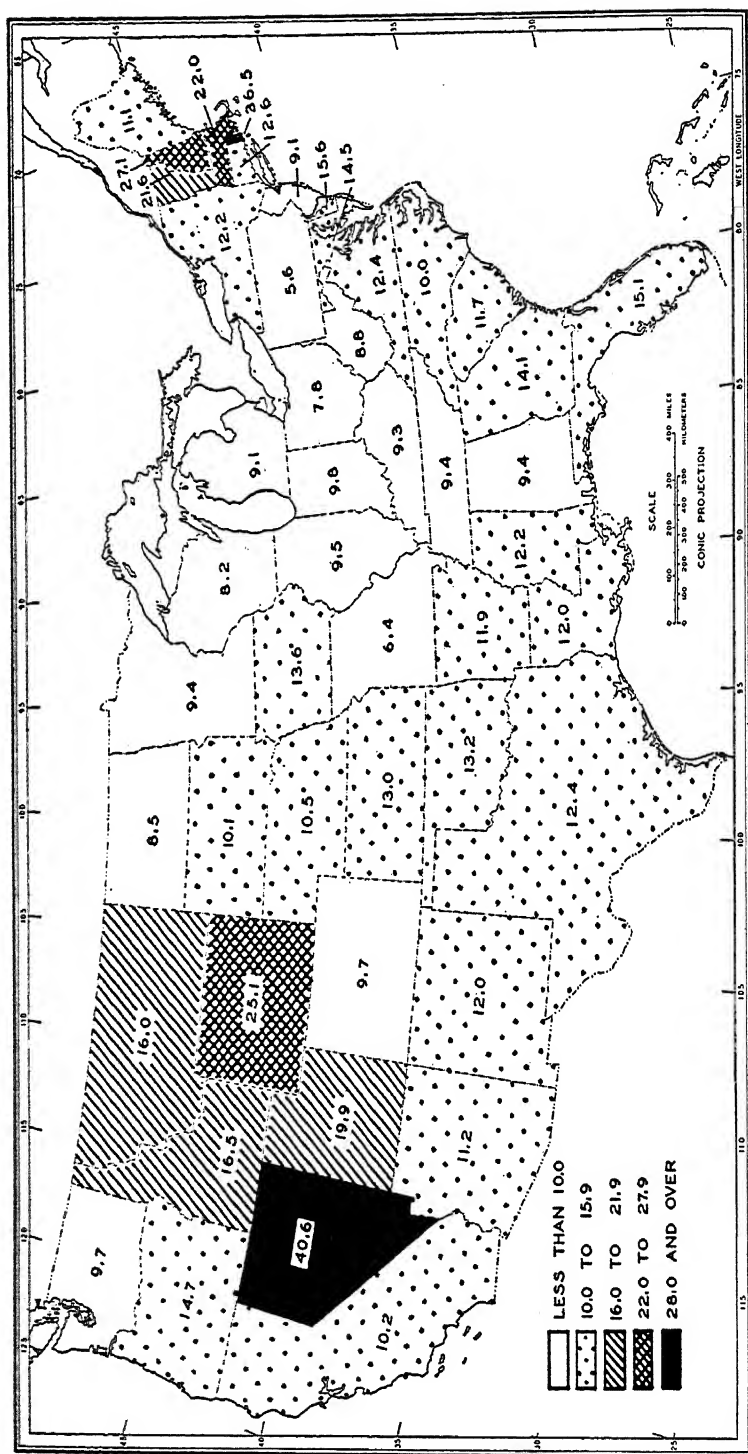


FIG. 108.—U.S. Cooperative Extension workers per 100,000 rural population, 1933. Source: Same as for Table 84. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

TABLE 84\*

U.S. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORKERS PER 100,000 RURAL  
POPULATION, 1933

STATE	RANK	WORKERS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100,000 Rural Population	
Nevada ..	1	23	40.6	3.95
Rhode Island ..	2	19	36.5	3.35
New Hampshire ..	3	52	27.1	1.98
Wyoming.....	4	39	25.1	1.69
Massachusetts ..	5	92	22.0	1.23
Vermont ..	6	52	21.6	1.17
Utah.....	7	48	19.9	0.93
Idaho.....	8	52	16.5	0.43
Montana ..	9	57	16.0	0.36
Delaware.....	10	18	15.6	0.30
Florida.....	11	107	15.1	0.22
Oregon. ....	12	68	14.7	0.17
Maryland ..	13	95	14.5	0.14
Georgia ..	14	284	14.1	0.08
Iowa ..	15	203	13.6	0.00
Oklahoma ..	16	208	13.2	-0.05
Kansas ....	17	150	13.0	-0.08
Connecticut ..	18	60	12.6	-0.14
Texas ....	19	426	12.4	-0.17
Virginia.....	19	203	12.4	-0.17
New York.....	21	252	12.2	-0.20
Mississippi ..	21	204	12.2	-0.20
Louisiana....	23	152	12.0	-0.23
New Mexico ..	23	38	12.0	-0.23
Arkansas ..	25	175	11.9	-0.24
South Carolina ..	26	160	11.7	-0.27
Arizona ..	27	32	11.2	-0.35
Maine ..	28	53	11.1	-0.36
Nebraska.....	29	94	10.5	-0.45
California ..	30	155	10.2	-0.49
South Dakota ..	31	57	10.1	-0.51
North Carolina ..	32	237	10.0	-0.52
Indiana ..	33	142	9.8	-0.55
Washington....	34	66	9.7	-0.57
Colorado ..	34	50	9.7	-0.57
Illinois.....	36	189	9.5	-0.60
Alabama ..	38	178	9.4	-0.61
Tennessee ..	38	162	9.4	-0.61
Minnesota ..	38	123	9.4	-0.61
Kentucky ..	40	168	9.3	-0.62
Michigan.....	41	140	9.1	-0.65
New Jersey ..	41	64	9.1	-0.65
West Virginia ..	43	109	8.8	-0.70
North Dakota.....	44	48	8.5	-0.74
Wisconsin ..	45	113	8.2	-0.79
Ohio.....	46	166	7.8	-0.84
Missouri.....	47	113	6.4	-1.05
Pennsylvania.....	48	173	5.6	-1.17

\* Source: U.S. Dept. Agric., *Yearbook of Agriculture: 1934* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1934), p. 763.  
Mean per 100,000 rural population (based on means of the 48 states), 7.1; standard deviation, 4.2;  
U.S. total, 5,869; U.S. workers per 100,000 rural population (including District of Columbia), 10.9.  
The total for February 29, 1936, was 8,732.

pects of their work. The enactment of legislation in recent years by the federal government for the stabilization of agriculture, for the relief of drought and flood areas, and for soil conservation, has extended the scope of this service. The establishment of forums and radio broadcasts for farmers, and the provision of other means of promoting study and discussion have likewise greatly broadened the interests of farm populations and have stimulated their demand for books and other library materials. The federal emergency adult education program has also tended to emphasize interest in cultural subjects such as art, music, drama, parent education, etc., as well as in vocational subjects. Where county libraries are established, close co-operation between this service and libraries has been maintained. But, unfortunately, there has not been available public library service which is well adjusted to the support of this broadened program of activities. Of the 2,896 counties which have agricultural extension agents, 268 (9 per cent), have complete library service; 1,493 (51 per cent), partial; and 1,135 (40 per cent), no service. Of the 1,679 counties which have home demonstration agents, 194 (11 per cent), have complete library service; 854 (51 per cent), partial; and 631 (38 per cent), none.<sup>5</sup> Particularly noticeable, also, is the absence of library specialists from the list of specialists engaged in directing the service in the various states.

#### OTHER ADULT EDUCATION AGENCIES

No effort is made here to indicate the number of adult education agencies which exist in the United States at the present time or to describe the activities in which they are engaged. Their number, as indicated in the *Handbook for Adult Education* for 1936, runs into the hundreds, and the total number of adults engaged in one form or another of adult education is estimated at 22,000,000.<sup>6</sup> It is sufficient for the purposes of this study to

<sup>5</sup> American Library Association, Special Committee on Federal Relations, "Federal Relations to Libraries" (MS in preparation), p. 51.

<sup>6</sup> Cartwright, *op. cit.*, p. 60.

TABLE 85\*

MEMBERS PER 10,000 POPULATION PAYING DUES TO THE NATIONAL  
FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS, 1935

STATE	RANK	MEMBERS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 10,000 Population	
New Hampshire . . . . .	1	7,823	168.1	3 67
Delaware. . . . .	2	3,147	132 0	2 60
Massachusetts. . . . .	3	42,203	99.3	1 63
Iowa. . . . .	4	24,486	99.1	1 62
Nebraska . . . . .	5	12,723	92.3	1 42
Montana . . . . .	6	4,331	80.5	1.07
Vermont . . . . .	7	2,788	77 5	0 98
Wyoming . . . . .	8	1,525	67 6	0 69
Arizona. . . . .	9	2,911	66.8	0 67
Nevada . . . . .	10	585	64.2	0 59
Kansas. . . . .	11	12,023	63.9	0 58
New Mexico . . . . .	12	2,659	62.8	0 55
Colorado . . . . .	13	6,107	58.9	0 43
North Dakota . . . . .	14	3,795	55.7	0 34
Wisconsin. . . . .	15	14,339	48.7	0 13
Connecticut . . . . .	16	7,670	47 7	0 10
Idaho. . . . .	17	2,089	46.9	0 08
Washington . . . . .	18	7,321	46.8	0 07
West Virginia . . . . .	19	8,028	46 4	0 06
Indiana . . . . .	20	13,350	41.2	-0 09
Illinois . . . . .	21	31,301	41.0	-0 10
Florida. . . . .	22	5,782	39 3	-0 15
Michigan . . . . .	23	18,790	38.8	-0 16
Oregon. . . . .	24	3,654	38.3	-0 18
California . . . . .	25	21,224	37.3	-0 21
Virginia. . . . .	26	8,681	35.8	-0 25
Utah. . . . .	27	1,758	34 6	-0 29
South Dakota. . . . .	28	2,078	29.9	-0 43
Alabama. . . . .	29	7,881	29 7	-0 43
Oklahoma . . . . .	30	6,862	28.6	-0 47
Maryland . . . . .	31	4,583	28.0	-0 48
Missouri. . . . .	32	9,530	26.2	-0 54
Kentucky . . . . .	33	6,507	24.8	-0 58
Mississippi . . . . .	34	4,885	24 3	-0 59
Texas. . . . .	35	13,602	23.3	-0 62
New Jersey. . . . .	36	9,023	22.3	-0 65
Ohio. . . . .	37	14,141	21 2	-0 68
Pennsylvania . . . . .	38	19,151	19 8	-0 73
Georgia. . . . .	39	5,566	19 1	-0 75
Rhode Island . . . . .	40	1,304	18 9	-0 75
Maine. . . . .	41	1,328	16.6	-0 82
Tennessee . . . . .	42	4,322	16 5	-0 82
Arkansas . . . . .	43	2,667	14 3	-0 89
Minnesota. . . . .	44	3,071	11 9	-0.96
Louisiana . . . . .	45	1,481	7 0	-1.10
New York. . . . .	46	7,807	6.2	-1.13
North Carolina . . . . .	46	1,989	6.2	-1 13
South Carolina. . . . .	48	495	2.8	-1 23

\* Source. Correspondence from Natl. Fed. of Women's Clubs.

Mean per 10,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 44 3; standard deviation, 32 76; U S. total 400,527; U S. members per 10,000 population (including District of Columbia), 32 62.



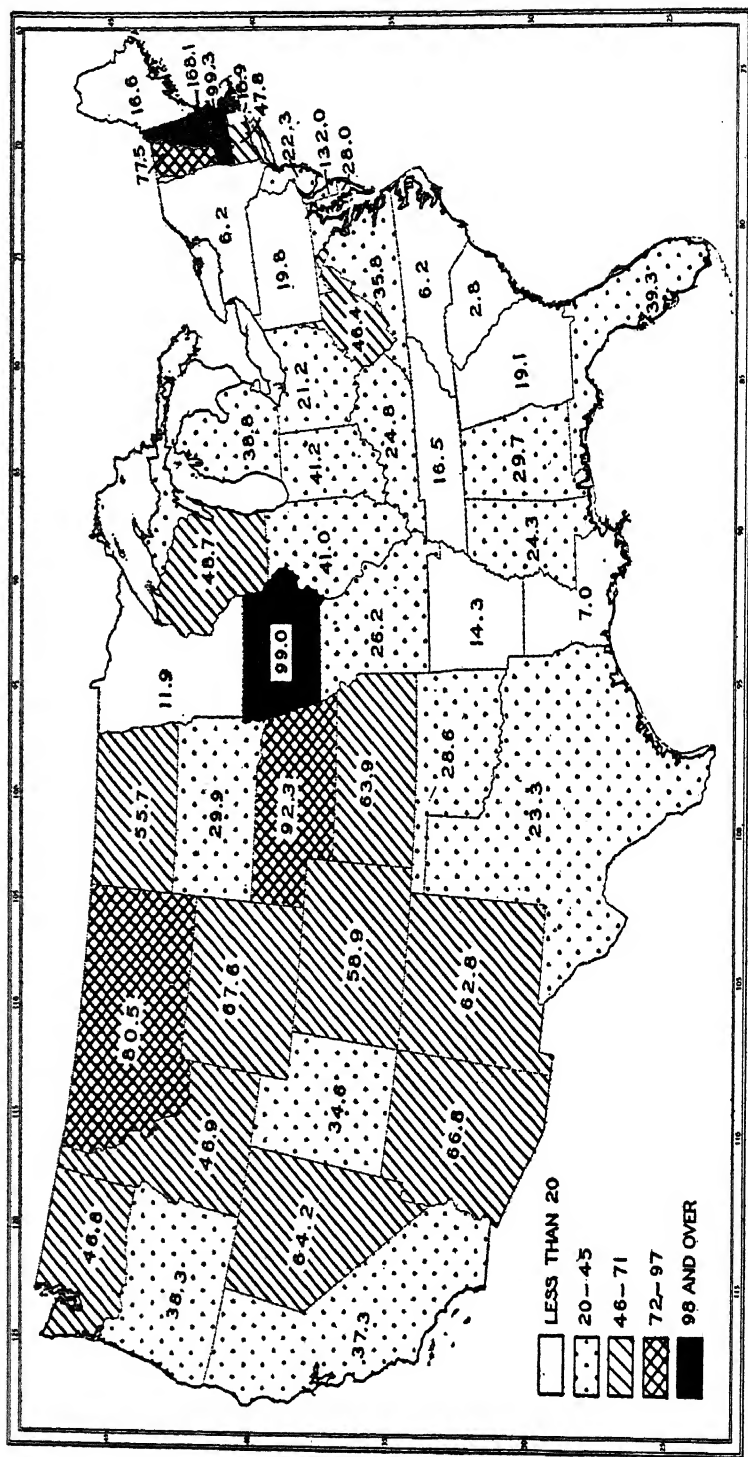


FIG. 109.—Members per 10,000 population paying dues to the National Federation of Women's Clubs, 1935. Source: Same as for Table 85. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

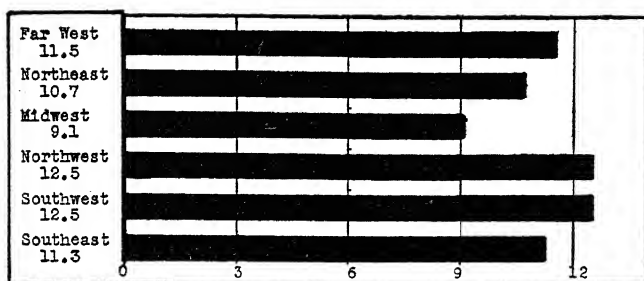


FIG. 110.—Regional summary of U.S. Cooperative Extension workers per 100,000 rural population, 1933.

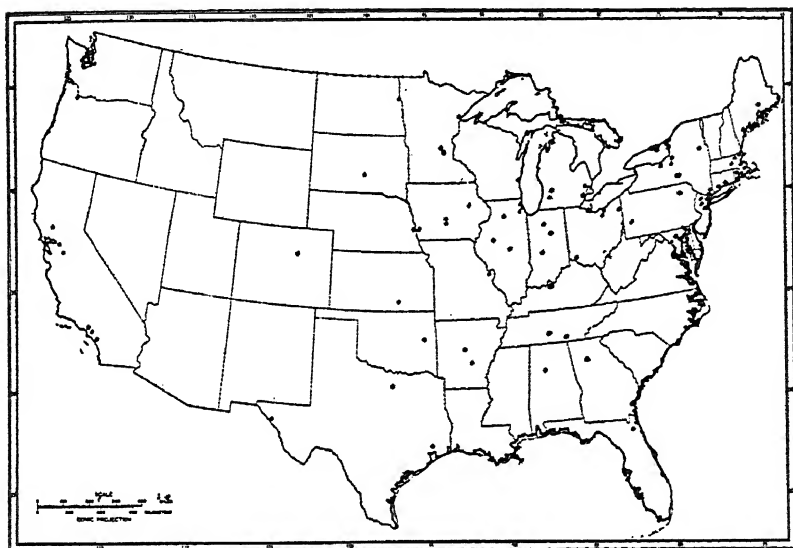


FIG. 111.—Libraries conducting experiments in adult education. Source: American Association for Adult Education, *Handbook of Adult Education in the United States, 1936* (New York: American Association for Adult Education, 1936), pp. 77-102. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

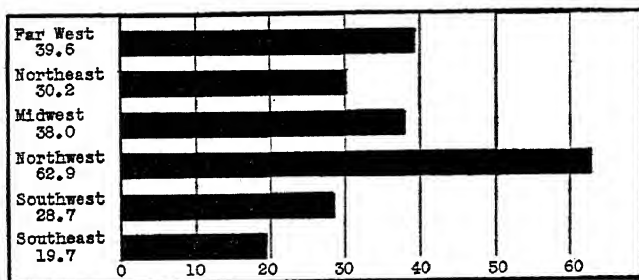


FIG. 112.—Regional summary of members per 10,000 population paying dues to the National Federation of Women's Clubs, 1935.

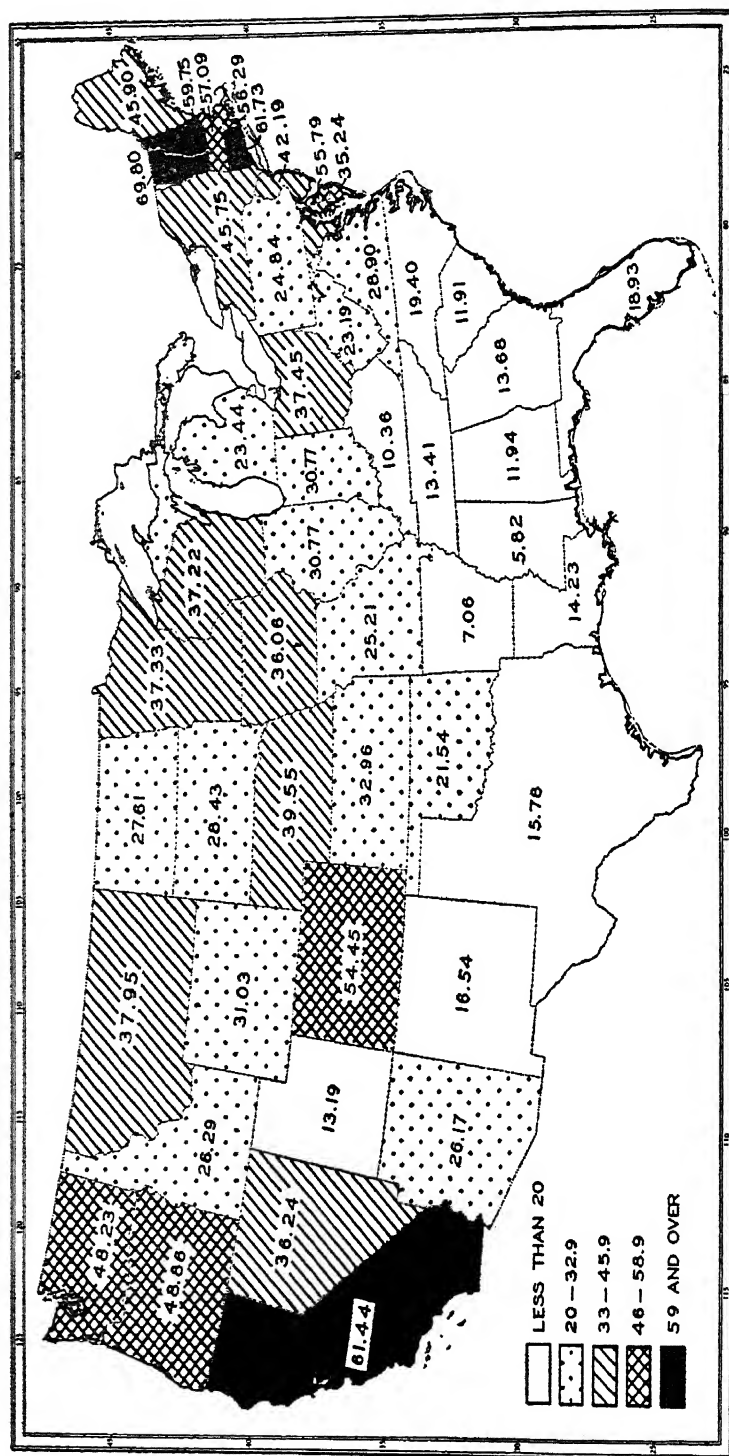


FIG. 113.—Average membership per 100,000 population in Phi Beta Kappa, American Association of University Professors, and American Association of University Women, 1935. Source: Same as for Table 86. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

TABLE 86\*

AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP PER 100,000 POPULATION IN PHI BETA KAPPA,  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, AND AMERI-  
CAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS, 1935

STATE	RANK	AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP PER ORGANIZATION		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100,000 Population	
Vermont . . . . .	1	251	69.80	2.29
Connecticut . . . . .	2	992	61.73	1.80
California . . . . .	3	3,488	61.44	1.78
New Hampshire . . . . .	4	278	59.75	1.68
Massachusetts . . . . .	5	2,426	57.09	1.51
Rhode Island . . . . .	6	387	56.29	1.46
Delaware . . . . .	7	133	55.79	1.43
Colorado . . . . .	8	564	54.45	1.35
Oregon . . . . .	9	466	48.86	1.01
Washington . . . . .	10	754	48.23	0.97
Maine . . . . .	11	366	45.90	0.83
New York . . . . .	12	5,759	45.75	0.82
New Jersey . . . . .	13	1,705	42.19	0.60
Nebraska . . . . .	14	545	39.55	0.44
Montana . . . . .	15	204	37.95	0.34
Ohio . . . . .	16	2,489	37.45	0.31
Minnesota . . . . .	17	957	37.33	0.30
Wisconsin . . . . .	18	1,094	37.22	0.29
Nevada . . . . .	19	33	36.24	0.23
Iowa . . . . .	20	891	36.06	0.22
Maryland . . . . .	21	575	35.24	0.17
Kansas . . . . .	22	620	32.96	0.03
Wyoming . . . . .	23	70	31.02	-0.09
Illinois . . . . .	24	2,348	30.77	-0.10
Indiana . . . . .	25	981	30.29	-0.13
Virginia . . . . .	26	700	28.90	-0.22
South Dakota . . . . .	27	191	28.43	-0.25
North Dakota . . . . .	28	188	27.61	-0.30
Idaho . . . . .	29	117	26.29	-0.38
Arizona . . . . .	30	114	26.17	-0.39
Missouri . . . . .	31	915	25.21	-0.44
Pennsylvania . . . . .	32	2,392	24.84	-0.47
Michigan . . . . .	33	1,135	23.44	-0.55
West Virginia . . . . .	34	401	23.19	-0.57
Oklahoma . . . . .	35	516	21.54	-0.67
North Carolina . . . . .	36	615	19.40	-0.80
Florida . . . . .	37	278	18.93	-0.83
New Mexico . . . . .	38	70	16.54	-0.98
Texas . . . . .	39	919	15.78	-1.02
Louisiana . . . . .	40	299	14.23	-1.12
Georgia . . . . .	41	398	13.68	-1.15
Tennessee . . . . .	42	351	13.41	-1.17
Utah . . . . .	43	67	13.19	-1.18
Alabama . . . . .	44	316	11.94	-1.26
South Carolina . . . . .	45	207	11.91	-1.26
Kentucky . . . . .	46	271	10.36	-1.36
Arkansas . . . . .	47	131	7.06	-1.56
Mississippi . . . . .	48	117	5.82	-1.64

\* Source: Correspondence from ΦBK Socy., A.A.U.W., and A.A.U.P.

Mean per 100,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 32.44; standard deviation, 16.28; U.S. total, 39,803; U.S. members per 100,000 population (including District of Columbia), 32.42.

show where some of these agencies exist and to indicate the general nature of their relationship to organized library service. Figure 111 is a spot map of a selected number of libraries listed in the *Handbook* of the American Association for Adult Educa-

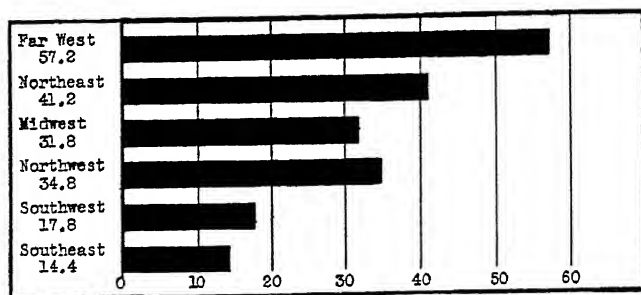


FIG. 114.—Regional summary of average membership per 100,000 population in Phi Beta Kappa, American Association of University Women, and American Association of University Professors, 1935.

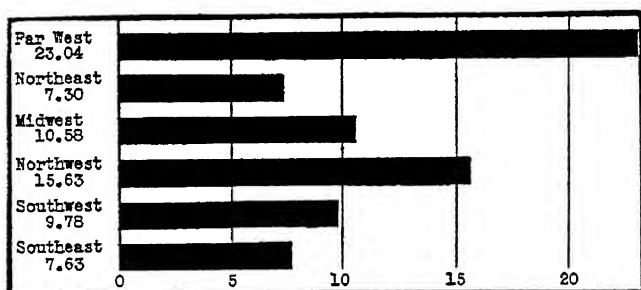


FIG. 115.—Regional summary of membership per 1,000 population in Parent-Teachers Associations, 1932-33.

tion as undertaking special experiments in promoting adult education activities and in serving adult education organizations.<sup>7</sup>

#### OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The distribution of membership in other organizations to which the library bears varying relationships is shown in Tables 85-90 and in Figures 109, and 112-22.

<sup>7</sup> Cf. John Chancellor, "Libraries and Adult Education," American Association for Adult Education, *Handbook*, 1936, pp. 77-102.

TABLE 87\*  
MEMBERSHIP PER 1,000 POPULATION IN PARENT-TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATIONS, 1932-33

STATE	RANK	MEMBERS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 1,000 Population	
Colorado .....	1	40,564	39 2	4 27
California. ....	2	149,904	26 4	2 36
Vermont .....	3	8,525	23 7	1 96
Delaware.....	4	4,509	18 9	1 24
Florida .....	5	26,570	18 1	1 12
New Jersey.....	6	66,356	16 4	0 87
Washington .....	6	25,615	16 4	0 87
Oregon .....	8	15,331	16 1	0 82
Rhode Island. .	9	10,183	14 8	0 63
North Dakota ..	10	10,010	14 7	0 61
Iowa.....	11	33,383	13 5	0 43
Nebraska. .	12	18,167	13 2	0 39
Kansas... ..	13	24,602	13 1	0 37
Missouri .....	14	45,283	12 5	0 28
Arizona... ..	15	5,293	12 2	0 24
South Dakota... .	16	8,409	12 1	0 22
Minnesota .....	17	29,201	11 4	0 12
Texas. . . . .	17	66,159	11 4	0 12
Ohio .....	17	75,747	11 4	0 12
Illinois.....	20	82,050	10 8	0 02
Georgia... ..	21	30,813	10 6	-0 01
Indiana.....	22	33,992	10 5	-0 02
Tennessee .....	23	25,836	9 9	-0 10
Arkansas.....	23	18,394	9 9	-0 10
Wyoming. .	23	2,224	9 9	-0 10
Montana.....	26	4,977	9 3	-0 19
Connecticut .....	27	14,807	9 2	-0 21
Michigan. .	28	43,084	8 9	-0 25
North Carolina ..	29	26,560	8 4	-0 33
Idaho.....	30	3,579	8 0	-0 39
Kentucky. .	31	18,500	7 1	-0 52
West Virginia..	32	11,665	6 7	-0 58
Pennsylvania .....	33	62,261	6 5	-0 61
Oklahoma .....	34	14,953	6 2	-0 66
Utah . . . . .	35	2,922	5 8	-0 72
New Mexico....	36	2,417	5 7	-0 73
Louisiana.....	36	12,032	5 7	-0 73
Wisconsin .....	38	16,590	5 6	-0 75
New York .....	39	67,941	5 4	-0 78
Maryland .....	39	8,768	5 4	-0 78
New Hampshire...	41	2,437	5 2	-0 81
Alabama .....	42	13,597	5 1	-0 82
Mississippi .....	43	8,924	4 4	-0 93
Maine.....	44	3,370	4 2	-0 96
Massachusetts .....	45	16,604	3 9	-1 00
South Carolina.....	46	6,354	3 7	-1 03
Virginia.....	47	7,501	3 1	-1 12
Nevada .....	48	35	0 4	-1 52

\* Source: Natl. Cong. Parents and Teachers, *Proceedings of the Thirty-seventh Annual Meeting, Seattle Washington, May 21-26, 1933, XXXVII* (Wash.: N.C.P.T., 1933), 345.  
Mean per 1,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 10.7, standard deviation, 6.70; U.S. total, 1,236,060; U.S. membership per 1,000 population (including District of Columbia), 10.1.

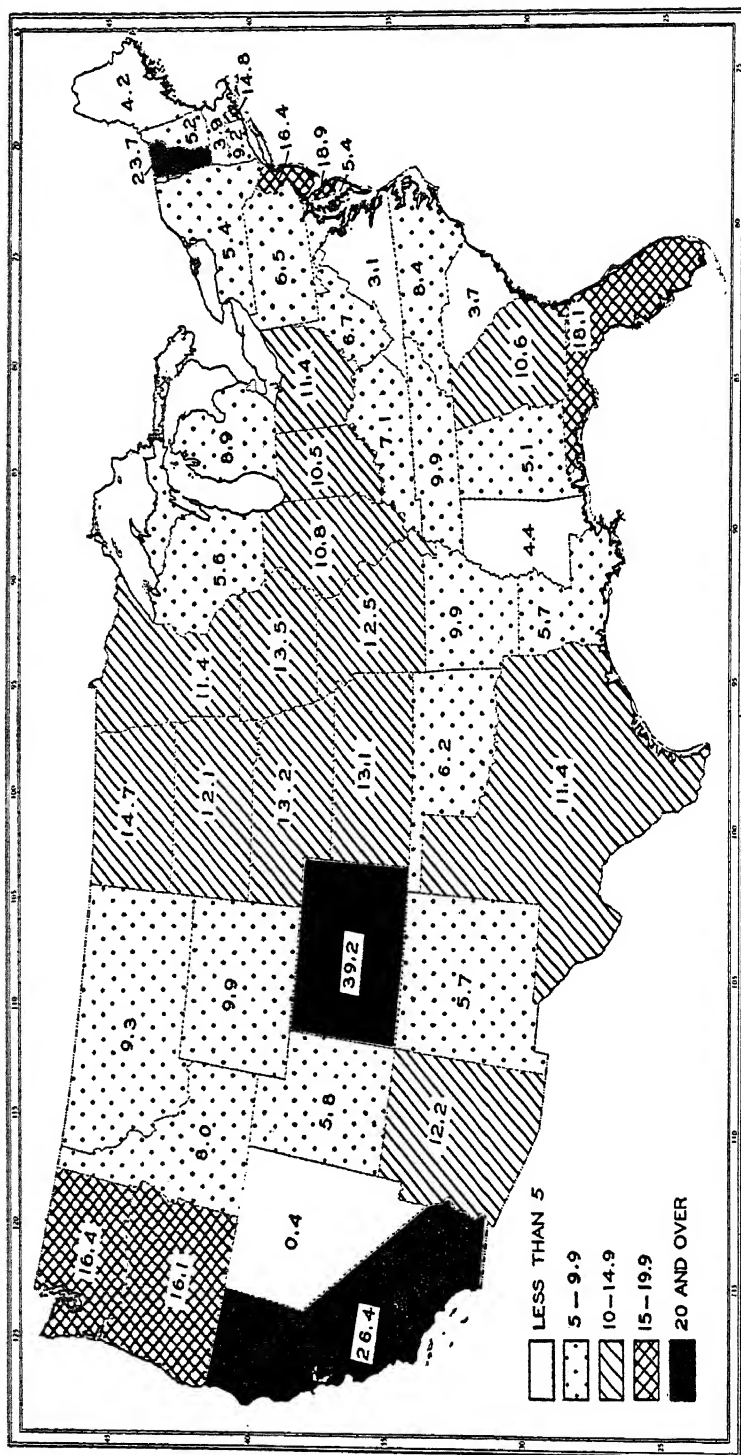


FIG. 116.—Membership per 1,000 population in Parent-Teachers Associations, 1932-33. Source: Same as for Table 87. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

TABLE 88\*

AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP PER 100,000 POPULATION IN THREE BUSINESS  
MEN'S CLUBS, 1935

STATE	RANK	AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP PER ORGANIZATION		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100,000 Population	
Nevada.....	1	220	242	3 62
Wyoming . . .	2	436	193	2.45
Montana.....	3	918	171	1.92
Utah... . . . .	4	745	147	1.34
Idaho.. . . . .	5	651	146	1.32
Maine . . . . .	6	1,056	132	0.98
Florida . . . . .	7	1,893	129	0 91
Oregon. . . . .	7	1,226	129	0.91
California . . . . .	9	6,834	120	0.70
Colorado.....	9	1,248	120	0 70
Kansas.. . . . .	11	2,235	119	0 67
Washington . . . . .	12	1,806	116	0 60
Arizona.... . . . .	13	487	112	0.50
New Hampshire. . . . .	14	517	111	0 48
North Dakota. . . . .	15	698	103	0 29
Nebraska.. . . . .	16	1,404	102	0 26
Indiana... . . . .	17	3,224	100	0.22
Texas.. . . . .	18	5,795	99	0 19
Vermont..... . . . .	19	354	98	0.17
Iowa. . . . .	20	2,386	97	0 14
Oklahoma.. . . . .	21	2,279	95	0 10
Delaware . . . . .	22	222	93	0 05
New Mexico.. . . . .	23	378	89	-0 05
South Dakota . . . . .	24	586	85	-0.14
West Virginia.....	25	1,439	83	-0.19
Wisconsin.... . . . .	26	2,296	78	-0 31
Ohio.. . . . .	27	5,128	77	-0 34
Connecticut . . . . .	28	1,190	74	-0 41
Virginia... . . . .	29	1,753	72	-0 46
Michigan.. . . . .	30	3,357	69	-0 53
Massachusetts. . . . .	31	2,804	66	-0 60
New Jersey..... . . . .	32	2,599	64	-0 65
Illinois.... . . . .	33	4,828	63	-0.67
Pennsylvania . . . . .	34	5,961	62	-0 70
North Carolina . . . . .	35	1,889	60	-0.74
Arkansas..... . . . .	36	1,069	58	-0 79
Georgia . . . . .	37	1,662	57	-0.82
South Carolina.....	37	994	57	-0 82
Minnesota. . . . .	39	1,340	52	-0.94
Missouri..... . . . .	39	1,897	52	-0 94
Maryland. . . . .	41	840	51	-0 96
Rhode Island... . . . .	42	336	49	-1 00
Alabama . . . . .	43	1,257	48	-1 03
Kentucky . . . . .	43	1,255	48	-1.03
Mississippi.....	45	952	47	-1.06
Tennessee... . . . .	46	1,149	44	-1.13
New York..... . . . .	47	5,434	43	-1.15
Louisiana.....	48	685	33	-1.39

\* Source: Correspondence from Rotary, Kiwanis, and Lions' Clubs.

Mean per 100,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 90.72; standard deviation, 41 69.  
U.S. total 89,698; U.S. membership per 100,000 population (including District of Columbia), 73.06.



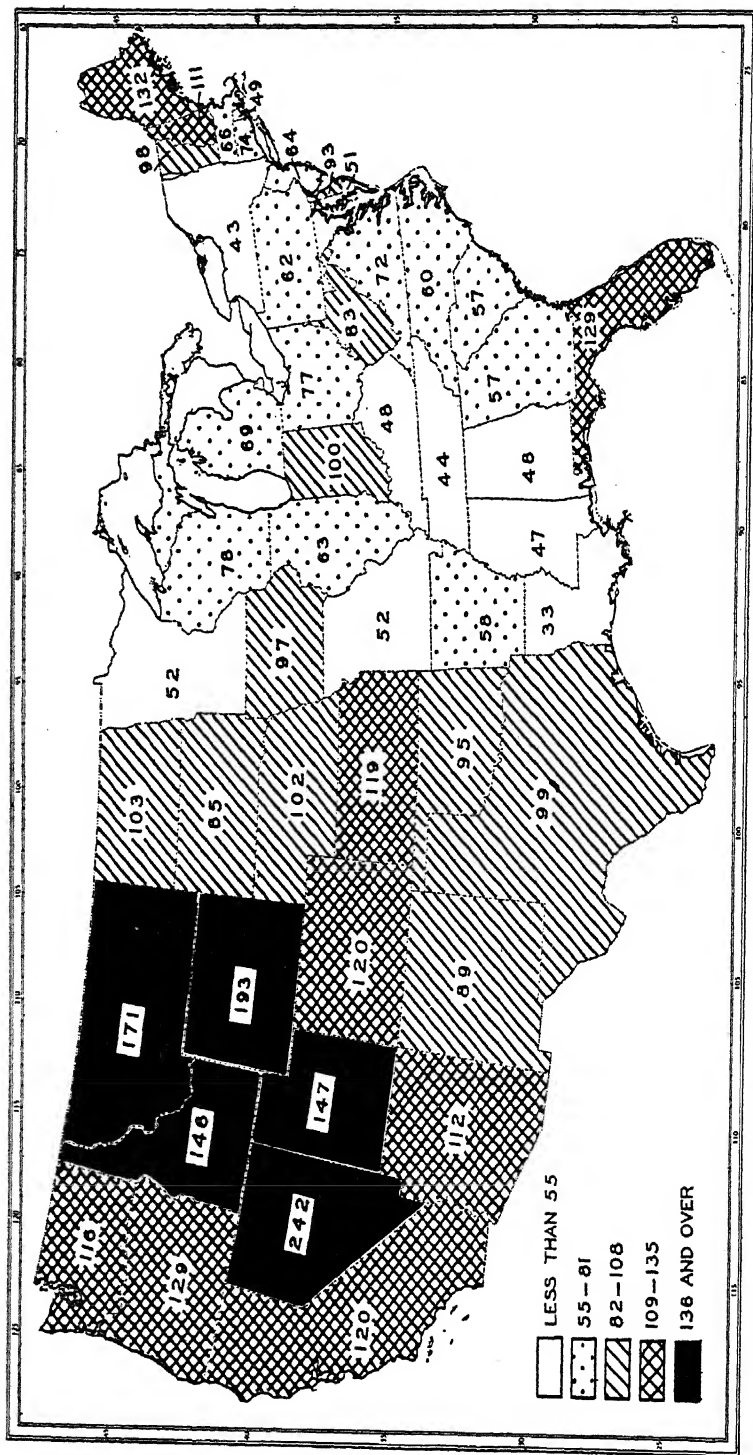


FIG. 117.—Average membership per 100,000 population in three business men's clubs, 1935. Source: Same as for Table 88. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

TABLE 89\*  
MEMBERSHIP PER 10,000 POPULATION IN BOY SCOUTS, GIRL  
SCOUTS, AND CAMP FIRE GIRLS, 1934

STATE	RANK	MEMBERSHIP		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 10,000 Population	
Utah...	1	14,991	295.19	4 30
Idaho.....	2	7,856	176 53	1 80
Connecticut . . . . .	3	24,182	150 49	1.25
Washington . . . . .	4	23,074	147.59	1.19
Oregon . . . . .	5	13,223	138.64	1 00
California . . . . .	6	75,062	132 22	0.86
Massachusetts. . . . .	7	55,899	131.54	0.85
Rhode Island . . . . .	8	8,938	130 01	0.82
North Dakota. . . . .	9	8,651	127 06	0 75
Montana. . . . .	10	6,725	125 09	0 71
Wyoming . . . . .	11	2,813	124.71	0 70
New Hampshire. . . . .	12	5,460	117 35	0 55
Minnesota. . . . .	13	29,476	114 96	0.50
Colorado . . . . .	14	11,243	108 55	0 36
New Jersey . . . . .	15	42,545	105.27	0.29
Maine. . . . .	16	8,275	103.77	0.26
Delaware. . . . .	17	2,473	103.74	0.26
New York. . . . .	18	127,097	100.97	0 20
Nebraska. . . . .	19	13,734	99.67	0.18
Arizona . . . . .	20	4,198	96.38	0 11
Michigan . . . . .	21	43,779	90 41	-0 02
Pennsylvania. . . . .	22	86,981	90 31	-0 02
South Dakota. . . . .	23	6,203	89.53	-0.04
Kansas. . . . .	24	16,827	89.46	-0 04
Ohio. . . . .	25	58,649	88.24	-0.06
Missouri . . . . .	26	31,672	87.27	-0 09
Vermont . . . . .	27	3,137	87.23	-0.09
Iowa . . . . .	28	20,977	84.89	-0.14
Wisconsin . . . . .	29	24,584	83 65	-0.16
Nevada. . . . .	30	747	82.04	-0 20
Illinois. . . . .	31	61,169	80.16	-0.24
Indiana. . . . .	32	25,533	78.84	-0.26
Florida . . . . .	33	11,175	76.11	-0.32
Oklahoma. . . . .	34	17,880	74.62	-0.35
West Virginia. . . . .	35	11,362	65 70	-0 54
New Mexico. . . . .	36	2,643	62 43	-0.61
Texas . . . . .	37	34,180	58.68	-0 69
Maryland . . . . .	38	9,264	56.78	-0 73
Louisiana. . . . .	39	8,908	42.39	-1.03
Virginia. . . . .	40	9,907	40 91	-1 06
North Carolina . . . . .	41	11,673	36 82	-1.15
Tennessee. . . . .	42	9,539	36 46	-1 16
Kentucky. . . . .	43	9,243	35.35	-1.18
Georgia. . . . .	44	9,991	34 35	-1.20
Mississippi. . . . .	45	5,494	27.34	-1.35
Arkansas. . . . .	46	4,580	24.70	-1 41
Alabama. . . . .	47	6,524	24.65	-1.41
South Carolina. . . . .	48	4,216	23.73	-1 43

\* Source: Correspondence from Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls.  
Mean per 10,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 91.31; standard deviation, 47.41; U.S. total (not including District of Columbia), 1,032,752.

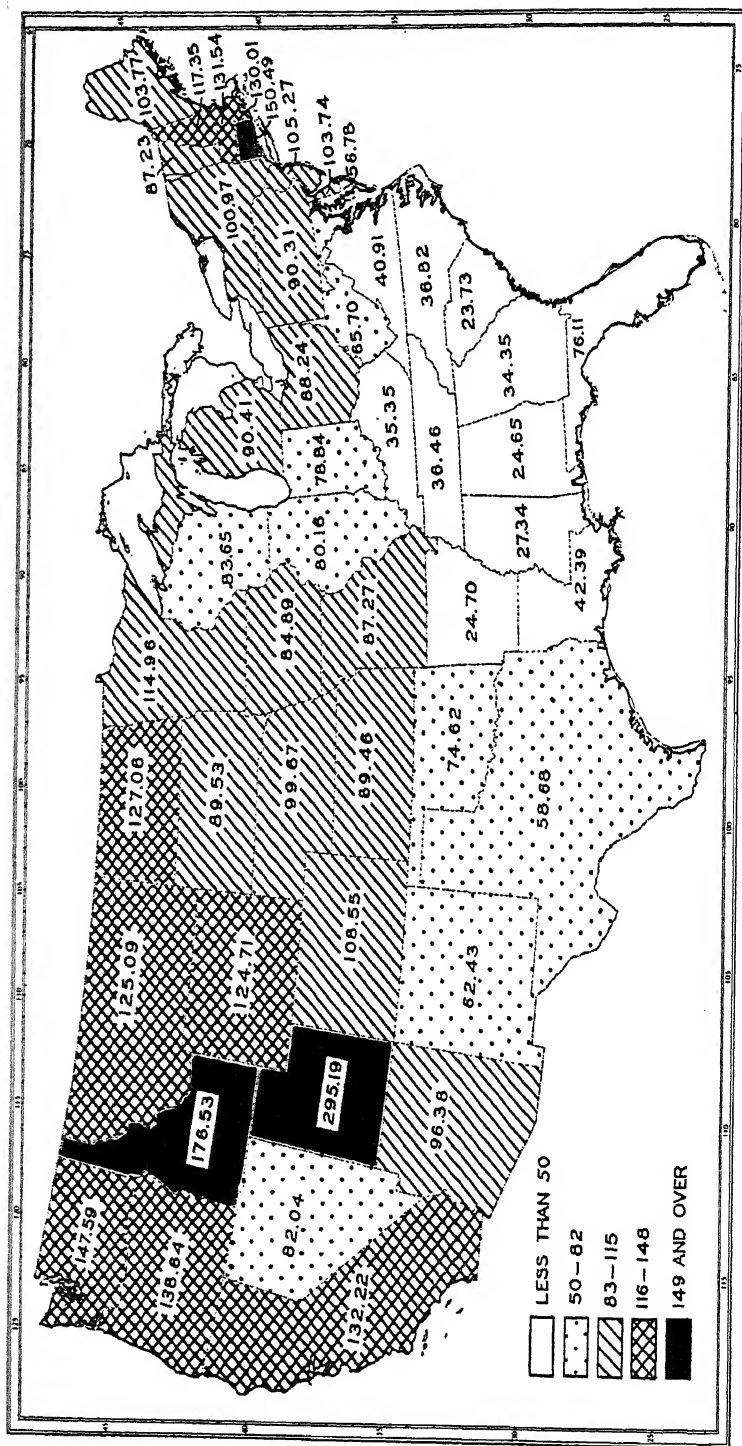


FIG. 118.—Membership per 10,000 population in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls, 1934. Source: Same as for Table 89. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

TABLE 90\*  
C.C.C. CAMPS PER 100,000 POPULATION, 1935

STATE	RANK	C.C.C. CAMPS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 100,000 Population	
Nevada ...	1	19	20.88	4 70
Wyoming ...	2	27	11.95	2 31
Idaho ...	3	48	10.79	1 99
Arizona ...	4	43	9.86	1 74
New Mexico ...	5	37	8.75	1 45
Vermont ...	6	31	8.61	1 42
Utah ...	7	30	5.91	0 70
Oregon ...	8	51	5.35	0 54
Montana ...	9	25	4.65	0 35
New Hampshire ...	10	19	4.09	0 19
Colorado ...	11	39	3.77	0 11
Virginia ...	12	82	3.38	0 08
Delaware ...	13	8	3.36	0.00
South Dakota ...	14	23	3.31	-0 02
Washington ...	15	50	3.20	-0 05
Wisconsin ...	16	76	2.59	-0 22
Minnesota ...	17	64	2.50	-0 24
West Virginia ...	18	42	2.43	-0 24
North Dakota ...	19	16	2.35	-0 27
Mississippi ...	20	47	2.34	-0 27
South Carolina ...	21	39	2.24	-0 30
Arkansas ...	22	41	2.21	-0 32
Tennessee ...	23	56	2.14	-0 32
Louisiana ...	24	43	2.05	-0 35
Maryland ...	25	32	1.96	-0 38
Maine ...	26	15	1.88	-0 40
North Carolina ...	27	59	1.86	-0 40
Oklahoma ...	28	42	1.75	-0.41
Nebraska ...	29	24	1.74	-0.43
California ...	30	98	1.73	-0.43
Kentucky ...	31	44	1.68	-0 46
Florida ...	32	24	1.63	-0 46
Michigan ...	33	77	1.59	-0 46
Georgia ...	34	44	1.51	-0 51
Alabama ...	35	38	1.44	-0 51
Missouri ...	36	52	1.43	-0 51
Iowa ...	37	34	1.38	-0 54
Texas ...	38	77	1.32	-0 54
Indiana ...	39	42	1.30	-0 56
Kansas ...	40	21	1.12	-0 59
Pennsylvania ...	41	106	1.10	-0 62
Connecticut ...	42	17	1.06	-0 62
Illinois ...	43	73	0.96	-0 65
New Jersey ...	44	36	0.89	-0 75
Massachusetts ...	44	38	0.89	-0 75
Rhode Island ...	46	6	0.87	-0 77
New York ...	47	104	0.83	-0 77
Ohio ...	48	51	0.77	-0 78

\* Source: C.C.C., *Directory of Civilian Conservation Camps: Seventh Period, 1936* (Mimeo; Wash.: May 1, 1936).  
Mean per 100,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 3.36; standard deviation, 3.72; U.S. total, 2,110; U.S. camps per 100,000 population (including District of Columbia), 1.73.

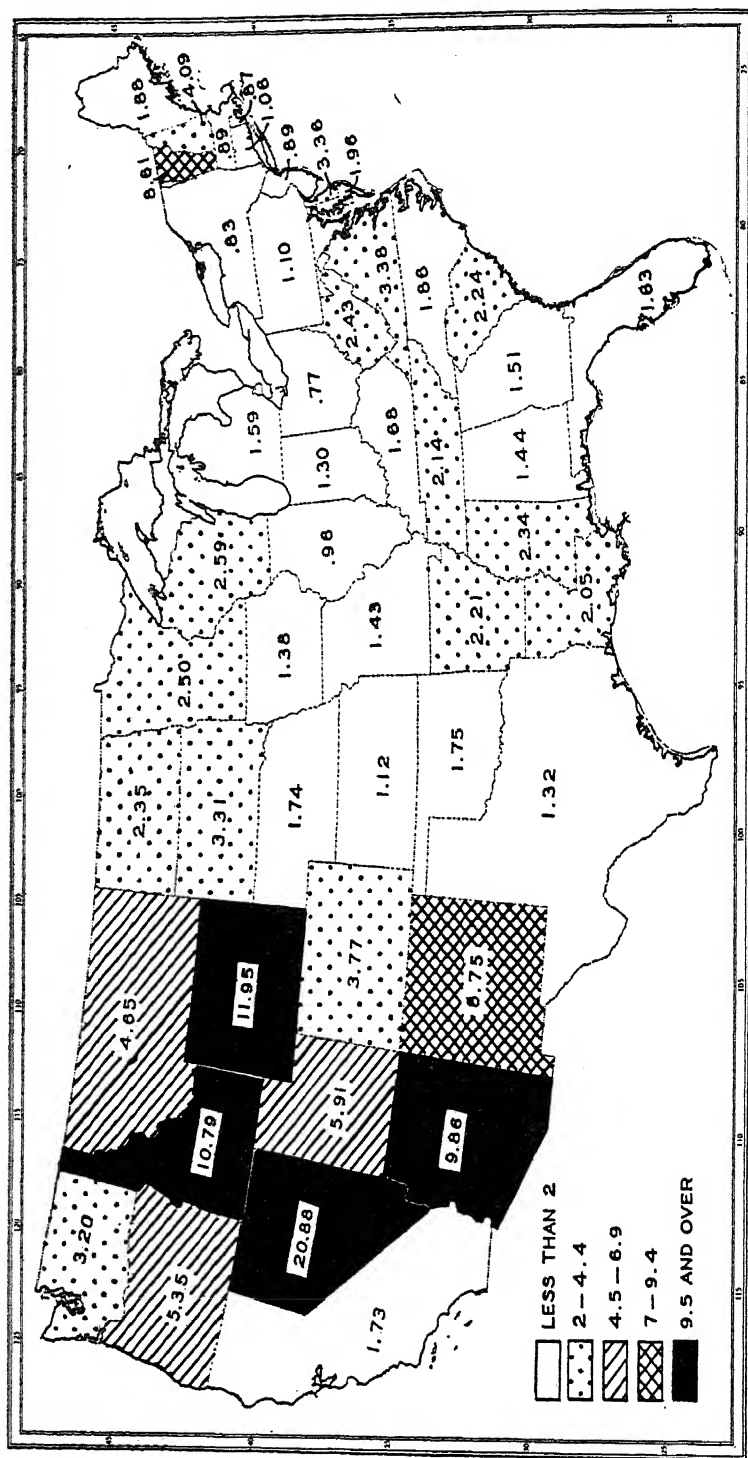


FIG. 119.—C.C.C. Camps per 100,000 population, 1935. Source: Same as for Table 90. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

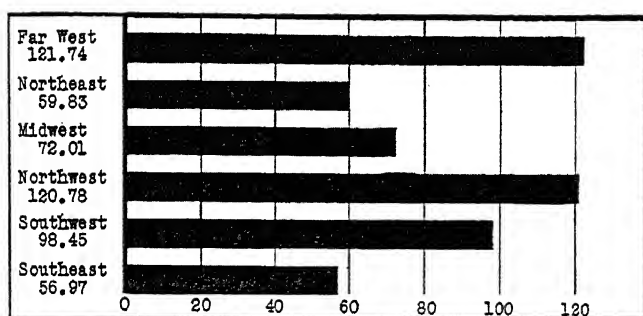


FIG. 120.—Regional summary of average membership per 100,000 population in three business men's clubs, 1935.

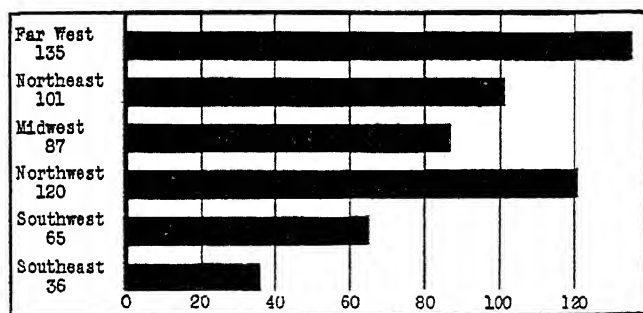


FIG. 121.—Regional summary of membership per 10,000 population in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls, 1934.

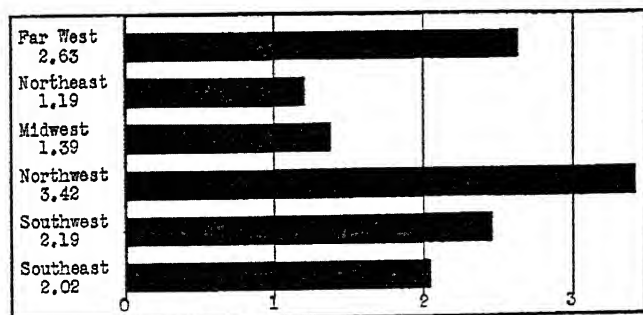


FIG. 122.—Regional summary of C.C.C. camps per 100,000 population, 1935

## ART MUSEUMS AND MEDIA FOR THE STUDY OF FINE ARTS

The art museum and the public library occupy logically and actually somewhat the same position in society's scheme of educational and cultural institutions. The former has been concerned with the preservation and use of the pictorial records of man's achievement, the latter with his printed records. Frequently the two institutions have been combined, particularly in European countries, and careful studies of the art museum bring into salient relief the similarity of problems of distribution, support, and use.<sup>8</sup> The public library is much more widely spread in its distribution, and the number of those whom it serves is far greater. The total expenditure for its maintenance in 1934 was \$45,855,400,<sup>9</sup> as contrasted with \$7,394,000 spent in 1930 by 167 public art museums.<sup>10</sup>

The work of the art museum in the cultivation of appreciation of pictures has also been considerably furthered by extension service maintained by some of the museums and by the distribution by the Carnegie Corporation of New York of special collections of art materials to schools, colleges, and universities. The extension work of the Chicago Art Institute, not only within Illinois but throughout the Middle West and the country, generally, has been distinctive and furnishes a fine example of how museums, libraries, and the extension services of colleges and universities can aid in this kind of special education. The location of libraries, colleges, and universities to which the aforementioned art sets have been given is shown in Figure 123. Table 91 summarizes information for 1930 concerning public museums of all kinds (including art museums). Distribution by states and regions is not shown, but it is of interest to mention here that the Northeast, the Midwest, and

<sup>8</sup> P. M. Rea, *The Museum and the Community* (Lancaster, Pa.: The Science Press, 1932).

<sup>9</sup> See Table 19.

<sup>10</sup> L. V. Coleman, "Recent Progress and Conditions of Museums," U.S. Office of Education, *Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1928-1930*, Bulletin 1931, No. 20 (Washington: Government Printing Office, chap. xxii).

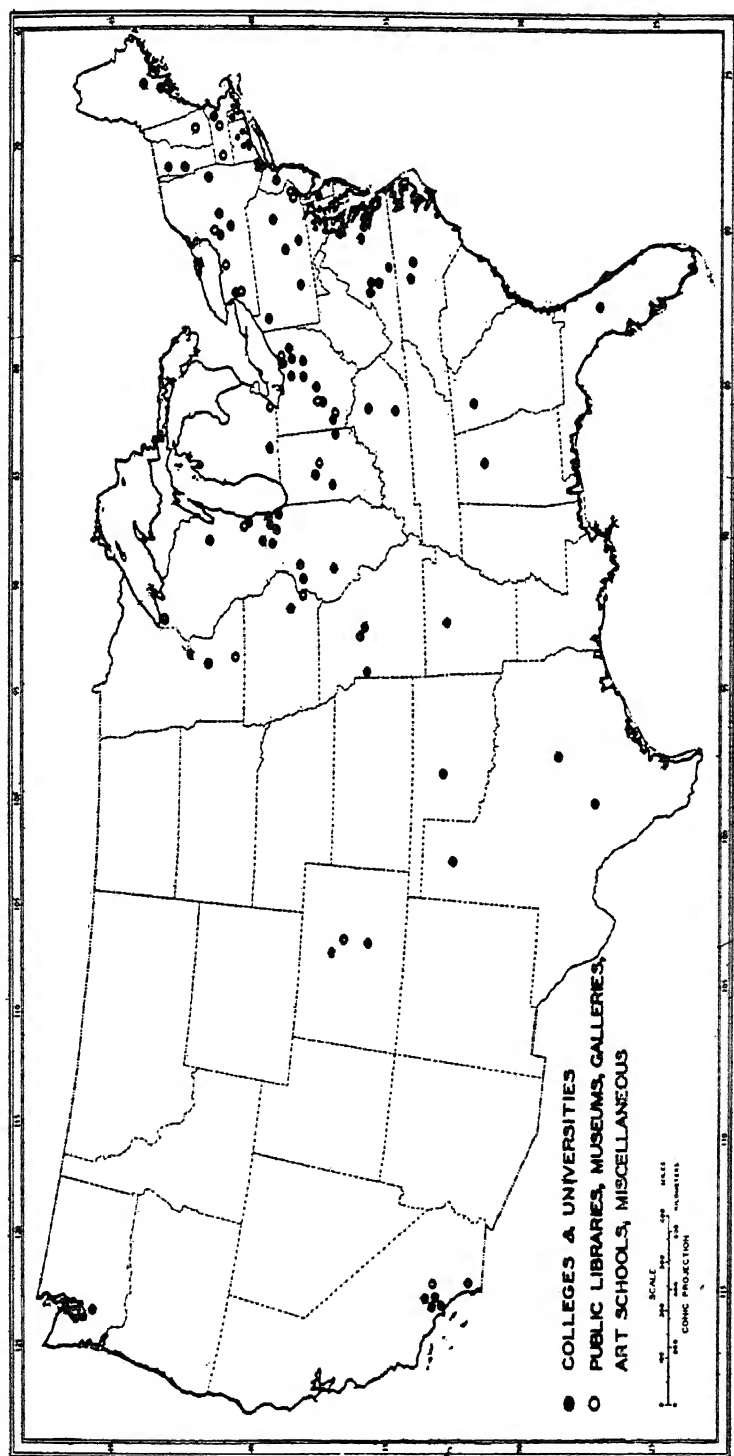


FIG. 123.—Art sets distributed by the Carnegie Corporation of New York to colleges, universities, public libraries, galleries, and art schools up to June, 1936. Source: Correspondence from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)



the Far West are better represented than are the Southeast and the Northwest. Summarized data for later years are unavailable. Since 1930, however, great impetus has been given to the museum movement through those who are themselves concerned with the museums, and through the federal government, which has furnished employment to artists and has aided in the development of nation-wide art projects.

TABLE 91\*  
PUBLIC MUSEUMS EXISTING IN 1930, GROUPED BY FIELD

Field	Museums	Aggregate of 1930 Incomes (Approximate)	Buildings	Cost of Buildings†
Art. . . . .	167	\$ 7,394,000	56	\$ 51,969,000
Science. . . . .	125	4,796,000	42	22,162,000
History. . . . .	415	919,000	44	7,435,000
Industry . . . . .	24	632,000	4	6,470,000
General. . . . .	50	2,590,000	20	15,145,000
Total . . . . .	781	\$16,331,000	166	\$103,181,000

\* Source: L. V. Coleman, "Recent Progress and Conditions of Museums," U.S. Off. Educ., *Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1928-1930*, Bull. 1931, No. 20 (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1932), chap. xxi.

† Only buildings designed for museum purposes are considered. With these are included museum additions to buildings of other kinds, and in any such case the cost taken is that of the addition, alone.

#### SUMMARY

The World War and the depression have been great school-masters of the past twenty years to whom America, willingly or otherwise, has gone to school. But besides these two there have been an infinite number of other forces and organizations which have played the role of teacher in a less grim and exacting manner. In city, in country, they have brought adults everywhere to learn more, not only about vocational readjustment, the practical problems of daily living, and the interplay of social, economic, and political forces within a democracy, but also about the sciences, history, literature, the drama, music, art, the crafts, dancing, recreation, and the fine art of individual living. The automobile, the moving picture, the radio, the daily press, and the magazine have affected this instruction in various

ways, and the library, where it exists and has been able to play its part adequately, has made large contributions to their educational significance.

The total involved in these formal and informal agencies has been estimated to run into the millions. The enrolment in 1934 in agricultural extension was placed at 6,000,000; radio education, 5,000,000; unemployed (relief), 2,250,000; recreation, 2,000,000; public schools, 1,500,000; private correspondence schools, library groups, lyceums and Chautauquas, men's and women's clubs, 1,000,000 each; and the total in all kinds of adult educational activities, at 22,311,000.<sup>11</sup>

This chapter has attempted to indicate some of the varying groups which might be expected to draw upon the library in carrying out their objectives and to show how these groups are distributed in relation to the facilities which they might profitably use. The group patterns deepen the conviction that the lack of supporting libraries in so comprehensive a program seriously limits its maximum effectiveness.

<sup>11</sup> Cartwright, *op. cit.*, p. 60.



PART III  
CAUSAL FACTORS



## CHAPTER XIII

### ASPECTS OF GEOGRAPHY AND POPULATION

VARIATION in the distribution of library facilities, of media for the dissemination of ideas, and of agencies and organizations of a cultural nature has been abundantly demonstrated in Parts I and II. The question which Part III asks is, why are library facilities so unequally accessible?

Two answers have recently been attempted. In *County Library Service in the South*<sup>1</sup> and in "Public Library Service in the Middle West,"<sup>2</sup> the authors have undertaken to account for variation in two major regions composed of fairly homogeneous states. But no effort has previously been made to explain variation within the nation as a whole. Obviously, this task is much more complex, owing to the differences which exist among the six regions, though the factors will be the same in many instances.

The causes considered in the two studies may be briefly summarized here. In accounting for the relatively backward library development of the South, the writers presented reasons under four general categories. The first causal factors were geographic. The fact was pointed out that climatically the South (as distinguished in the present study from the Southeast and the Southwest) was characterized by a long growing season, an annual rainfall, and types of soil that made cotton growing the predominant form of agricultural activity for the region; and although many parts of the region produced no cotton whatever, the cultural pattern of the South was, they maintained, largely conditioned by this major fact. Submarginal

<sup>1</sup> L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), chap. x.

<sup>2</sup> G. F. Purdy, "Public Library Service in the Middle West" (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1936), chap. v.

areas in the mountain plateaus and highlands, and in the exhausted eastern cotton belt, and soil erosion in many sections were also set down as geographical considerations which affected the establishment and support of libraries adversely.

The second group of causes was pointed out as incident to population. The region was populated predominantly by native whites and Negroes. Owing to racial segregation two sets of institutions had to be maintained, thus involving increased expense; the total population was excessively rural-farm; the proportion of children to adults was higher than in any other region, thereby adding to the burden of support of education to be carried by a relatively smaller number of adults in the total population; and through migration the region systematically lost many of its potential leaders to other sections of the country. Each of these population factors was shown to affect profoundly the social structure and effectiveness of the region.

The third category of influences retarding library development was classed as economic. Natural resources, though abundant, were not adequately developed on account of lack of technical and financial resources. Wages, per capita income, and the value of manufactured raw materials were lower than in any other region; and the excessive cultivation of cotton, with its attendant blights of farm tenancy and dependence upon a world market rather than upon a domestic one, completed an economic structure inadequate to supply the surplus upon which, in the final analysis, library development must very largely rest.

The causes constituting the fourth category were educational. The Southern region, more than any other, had experienced a historical lag in the development of its educational facilities. Illiteracy was high; the number of children per hundred thousand population was a third greater than in several regions; separate schools from the elementary grades through college had to be maintained for two races; the general pattern of higher education exhibited many divisions, such as public and private institutions both for men and for women, colleges of liberal

arts, and colleges of agriculture. Although a very high per cent of the total revenue for governmental purposes was devoted to the support of education, there was not enough basic wealth to yield the amount of revenue necessary for the support of adequate facilities.

The study which Mr. Purdy made dealt with public library development in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. He limited his investigation to six quantitative factors which he treated statistically. He considered respectively: (1) economic ability as determined by per capita income tax returns and by per capita retail sales; (2) urbanization; (3) status of reading which, as a source of ideas and recreation, was determined by the distribution of bookstores, the circulation of national magazines, daily newspapers, weeklies, and farm journals; (4) per cent of population 12-17 years of age in high school; (5) recent trends in growth of population; and (6) nativity of population. He found the 622 counties of the seven states relatively homogeneous as to economic and social conditions, and he came to the conclusion that, of the six factors considered, economic ability and urbanization accounted far more than any others for the variation evidenced, since economic ability counts for more than do urbanization and density of population. He also studied the relationship between the distribution of radios, telephones, and automobiles and the library index for the seven states. In this investigation he found that where libraries were well developed, bookstores, magazines, radios, and automobiles were usually correspondingly numerous; and where libraries were not generally well developed, the farm journal and rural weekly paper were largely in evidence. Table 92 illustrates the relationships discovered.

In both the Wilson and Wight and the Purdy studies the authors have indicated other causes as operating in these regions and have suggested the desirability of further investigation. Among the factors prominently mentioned were (1) the attitudes of given populations toward libraries, (2) schemes of taxation for library support, and (3) legislation providing for



the organization, administration, and support of library facilities—all of which would probably be found to affect library development as fundamentally as do the causes which can be measured quantitatively.

TABLE 92\*  
COMPARISON OF THREE TYPICAL COUNTIES

Bases of Comparison	Black Hawk County, Iowa	Menominee County, Michigan	Johnson County, Illinois
Library index. . . . .	130	98	11
Library expenditure in cents per capita . . . . .	49	33	4
Library circulation in volumes per 100 population	721	439	46
Per cent of population served by libraries	77	100	9
Per capita retail sales in dollars. . . . .	516	295	136
Number income tax returns per 10,000 population	270	172	30
Economic index. . . . .	161	98	29
Per cent of population rural farm. . . . .	16	40	68
Number of radios per 100 families . . . . .	52	39	16
Number of telephones per 100 families . . . . .	66	42	21
Number of automobiles per 100 families. . . . .	100	82	54
Number of bookstores. . . . .	7	2	0
Circulation of fifteen magazines per 100 families .	167	69	29
Circulation of Curtis and Crowell magazines per 100 families. . . . .	90	44	25
Circulation of daily newspapers per 100 families .	113	85	21
Circulation of weekly newspapers per 100 families	10	37	118
Circulation of farm journals per 100 families	66	86	133
Per cent 14-17 in school. . . . .	78	68	77

\* Source: Adapted from G. F. Purdy, "Public Library Service in the Middle West" (Unpub. Ph.D. diss., Grad. Lib. Sch., U. of Chic., 1936), Table 19, p. 111.

In considering the causes which have produced variation within the nation as a whole, both types of influences require additional attention: both quantitative and intangible factors must be taken into account. The problem of library development should be viewed against the background of a number of recent studies which deal with the distribution and support of other institutions. A minimum list may well include the follow-

ing: Odum's *Southern Regions of the United States*,<sup>3</sup> which treats of all kinds of institutions as well as of geographical, social, and economic conditions and attitudes; Mort's *Federal Support for Public Education*,<sup>4</sup> which portrays differences in the ability of various states to support public schools; the Federal Emergency Relief Administration's *Six Rural Problem Areas*,<sup>5</sup> which shows the relation of submarginal land to economic support of individuals and institutions; Raper's *Preface to Peasantry*,<sup>6</sup> which deals with the impoverishment and near-slavery inherent in farm tenancy; Goodrich's *Migration and Economic Opportunity*,<sup>7</sup> which contrasts the plane of living with the economic resourcefulness of every county in the nation; and Norton and Norton's *Wealth, Children and Education*,<sup>8</sup> which brings together in one publication the latest factual data concerning the ability of different states and regions to support education—all these studies bear upon the subject either directly or indirectly.

Because of the importance of this background material, the chapters of Part III of this study are devoted to its consideration. The remainder of this chapter is concerned with the role played by geography and population in affecting variation in library development.

#### GEOGRAPHIC ASPECTS

As a result of droughts, dust storms, and floods during the last half-decade America has become acutely conscious of

<sup>3</sup> H. W. Odum, *Southern Regions of the United States* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1936).

<sup>4</sup> P. R. Mort, *Federal Support for Public Education* (New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1936).

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Division of Research Statistics and Finance, *Six Rural Problem Areas: Relief—Resources—Rehabilitation*, Research Monograph I (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1935).

<sup>6</sup> A. F. Raper, *Preface to Peasantry: A Tale of Two Black Belt Counties* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1936).

<sup>7</sup> Carter Goodrich *et al.*, *Migration and Economic Opportunity: The Report of the Study of Population Redistribution* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1936).

<sup>8</sup> J. K. Norton and M. A. Norton, *Wealth, Children and Education* (New York: Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, 1937).

geographic conditions which affect men and institutions. It has been vividly reminded of the theory which many students of society have held, that the activities of a people are definitely related to the areas in which they live, and that the work of a people profoundly shapes their culture or civilization. The cultures of the mountaineer, the cowboy, the share cropper are influenced by the mountain ridges and valleys, the ranches, and the cotton belt from which they have sprung. As Mr. Bowman says:

Man alone among life forms applies a mind to the frustration or adaptation of the natural forces of his environment and is less obviously disturbed in a logical way. Yet for all his independence and ingenuity he can never wholly escape from his environment. . . . This world is made up of regions and each region has its own personality, its own set of significant conditions.<sup>9</sup>

Knowledge of submarginal land, of soil erosion, of mountain, plateau and highland, of wide areas of limited rainfall has widely multiplied, and state and federal legislation has been directed increasingly to situations which are incident to these geographic conditions. Subsistence farming, resettlement projects, purchase of lands for reforestation, and withdrawal of submarginal areas from settlement have assumed an importance hitherto unknown in state and national planning. When they are considered in relation to statistics of relief, they make clear the fact that public services such as schools and libraries cannot be maintained in certain areas by means of local resources. If they are to be maintained at an adequate level, it is necessary that their support be supplemented by funds from other areas which possess abundant economic resources.

Figure 124, which indicates the location and extent of six rural areas<sup>10</sup> in which the problems of relief have been particularly acute in recent years, shows the intimate relation which exists between areas of submarginal land and the lack of library development.

<sup>9</sup> Isaiah Bowman, *Geography in Relation to the Social Sciences* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1934), pp. 3-4.

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Division of Research Statistics and Finance, *op. cit.*, p. 33.

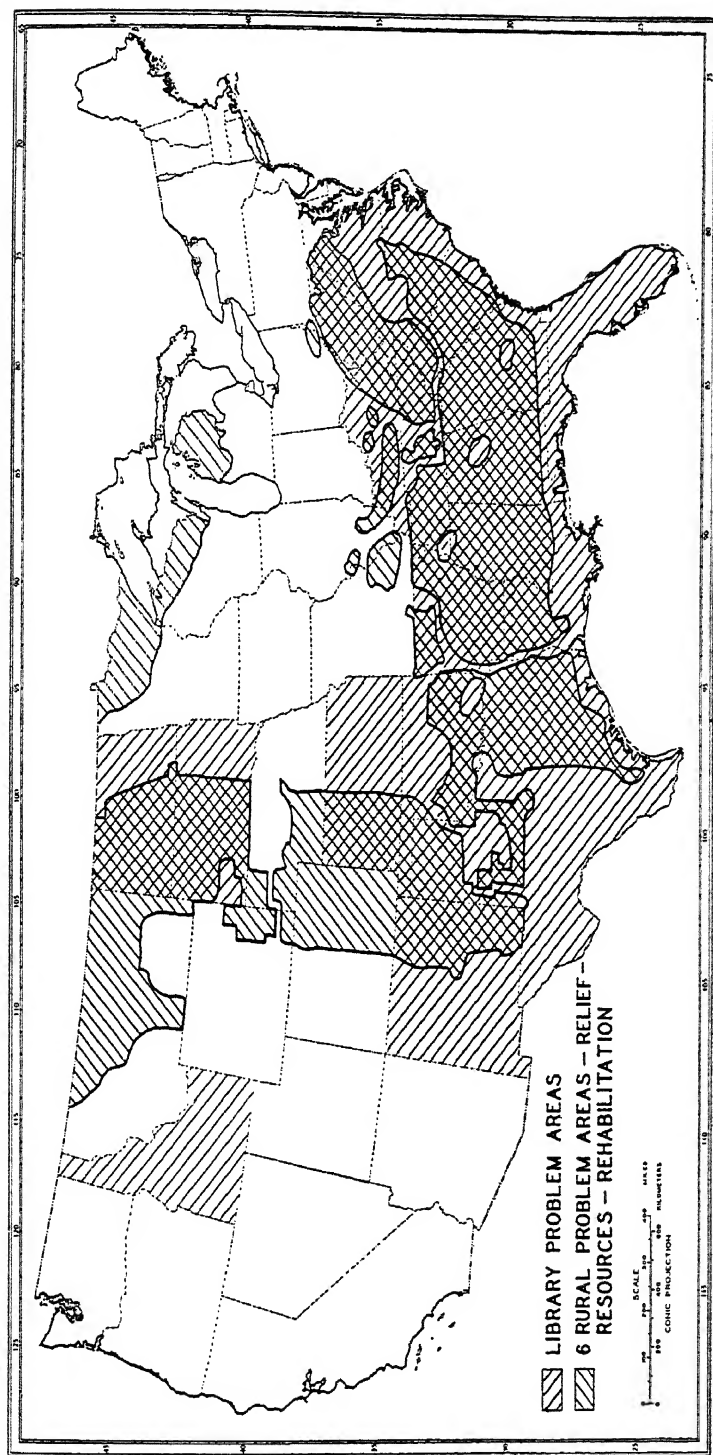


FIG. 124.—Six rural problem areas superimposed over library service problem areas. Source: U.S. Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Division of Research Statistics, and Finance, *Six Rural Problem Areas: Relief—Resources—Rehabilitation*, Research Monograph, I (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1935); Table 51 (Index of Public Library Development, 1934). (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

The six areas which the Federal Emergency Relief Administration has studied are: (1) the Appalachian-Ozark area, (2) the Lake states cut-over area, (3) the winter and (4) the spring wheat areas between the 100th meridian and the Rocky Mountains, and (5) the western and (6) eastern cotton belts. The Appalachian-Ozark area embraces the mountain highlands and plateaus from Pennsylvania to the Carolinas, Tennessee, and Kentucky, and the Ozark region in Arkansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, west of the Mississippi. The Lake states cut-over area in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota has been stripped of its timber. The wheat areas were formerly grazing regions and, because of the limited rainfall, are ill-adapted to intensive cultivation. The two cotton belts comprise the most highly concentrated regions of farm tenants and share croppers in America, and in the eastern cotton belt the soil is unfortunately exhausted after more than a century of steady planting of cotton.

Figure 124 imposes these areas over what may be considered, according to the library index developed in chapter vii, as the problem areas of the nation in terms of library service. Both the relief and library areas cut across state boundaries and fail in many subdivisions to coincide exactly. Parts of certain states are included in the library areas, as in the case of southern Illinois, because library development in that part of the state is low. In general, those states are included which, according to the library index, fall below  $-0.50$ . These six areas included in 1935 approximately one-half of all rural families on relief in the United States, 36 per cent of the rural population, and 43 per cent of the farmers in the United States on the basis of the 1930 census. They contained about one-third of the farm owners of the nation, one-half of the farm tenants, and four-fifths of the share croppers. The two cotton belts contained more than three-fourths of all Negro farmers.<sup>11</sup> Three figures in *Migration and Economic Opportunity*<sup>12</sup> vividly reinforce this specific statement and show that of the 380 counties in the United States which had an average gross income of less than \$150 per

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 1-3.

<sup>12</sup> Goodrich *et al.*, *op. cit.*, Plate I and p. 14.

TABLE 93\*  
PER CENT OF POPULATION 19 YEARS OF AGE, AND  
UNDER, 1930

STATE	RANK	POPULATION 19 YEARS OF AGE, AND UNDER	
		Total	Per Cent
South Carolina . . . .	1	879,979	50.6
North Carolina . . . . .	2	1,561,200	49.3
Alabama . . . . .	3	1,243,203	47.0
New Mexico . . . . .	4	198,428	46.8
Mississippi . . . . .	5	934,439	46.6
Georgia . . . . .	6	1,344,010	46.3
West Virginia . . . . .	7	796,552	46.1
Utah . . . . .	7	233,646	46.1
Arkansas . . . . .	9	848,284	45.8
North Dakota . . . . .	10	309,074	45.4
Virginia . . . . .	11	1,074,396	44.4
Oklahoma . . . . .	12	1,061,168	44.2
Louisiana . . . . .	13	923,958	44.0
Kentucky . . . . .	14	1,147,491	43.9
Tennessee . . . . .	15	1,145,062	43.8
Idaho . . . . .	16	190,289	42.8
Texas . . . . .	17	2,483,200	42.6
South Dakota . . . . .	18	294,286	42.5
Arizona . . . . .	19	183,386	42.1
Pennsylvania . . . . .	20	3,803,561	39.4
Nebraska . . . . .	21	540,263	39.3
Florida . . . . .	22	575,055	39.2
Wyoming . . . . .	22	88,504	39.2
Montana . . . . .	24	209,786	39.0
Minnesota . . . . .	25	981,486	38.3
Kansas . . . . .	26	717,044	38.1
Colorado . . . . .	27	394,522	38.0
Wisconsin . . . . .	27	1,120,486	38.0
Michigan . . . . .	29	1,822,766	37.7
Maine . . . . .	30	297,508	37.3
Maryland . . . . .	31	605,702	37.2
Iowa . . . . .	31	922,602	37.2
Vermont . . . . .	33	133,081	37.0
Connecticut . . . . .	33	593,598	37.0
Rhode Island . . . . .	33	254,402	37.0
Indiana . . . . .	36	1,181,719	36.5
Ohio . . . . .	37	2,403,337	36.1
New Jersey . . . . .	37	1,459,324	36.1
Delaware . . . . .	39	85,391	35.9
Missouri . . . . .	40	1,296,612	35.7
New Hampshire . . . . .	41	163,743	35.2
Massachusetts . . . . .	42	1,493,449	35.1
Illinois . . . . .	43	2,656,850	34.9
Washington . . . . .	44	527,182	33.7
New York . . . . .	45	4,223,632	33.6
Oregon . . . . .	46	316,408	33.1
Nevada . . . . .	47	28,910	31.8
California . . . . .	48	1,723,571	30.4

\* Source: Computed from U.S. Bur. For. and Dom. Comm., *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1935* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1935), Tables 28-29, pp. 36-38.

Mean per cent (based on per cents of the 48 states), 39.9; standard deviation, 4.975; U.S. total, 47,608,991; U.S. per cent 19 years of age, and under (including District of Columbia), 38.8.

rural farm inhabitant in 1929, all but 7 were in the Southeast and Southwest, and that of the 64 counties in which the per farm inhabitant income was less than \$100, 52 were in the southern Appalachians.

#### POPULATION

People, as well as geography, have left their impress upon the pattern of library development in the United States. Consequently, aspects of population which have affected this pattern may next be considered. Of these there are a number. One of the most important is the ratio of persons nineteen years of age, or under, to those twenty years of age, or older. Table 93 shows that in the Southeast, in sections of the rural problem areas discussed above, the ratio approximates 1 to 1; for example, in South Carolina, the total per cent of the population nineteen years of age, or under, is 50.6. In California it is only 30.4 per cent. This means that in South Carolina in every population group of 1,000 persons there are only 494 adults twenty years of age, or older, who provide public services for 506 persons nineteen years of age, or under. In California, there are 696 adults in each 1,000 population group who provide such services for 304 persons nineteen years of age, or under. Marin County, in that state, has the numbers 738 and 262, respectively. The conviction is inescapable that this condition goes far to account for many of the differences in library development in the two states. It is also significant that of the ten states having the highest public library status none is included in the list of the ten states which have the highest per cent of persons nineteen years of age, or under; and eight of the latter states are to be found in those ten where library status is lowest. North Carolina, which ranks second among the states with the highest per cent of children, escapes inclusion in the lowest ranking library group by only one point. Regionally, the same condition is evident, as library status is related in exact inverse order to per cent of children in the total population.

The second aspect of population that may be considered as

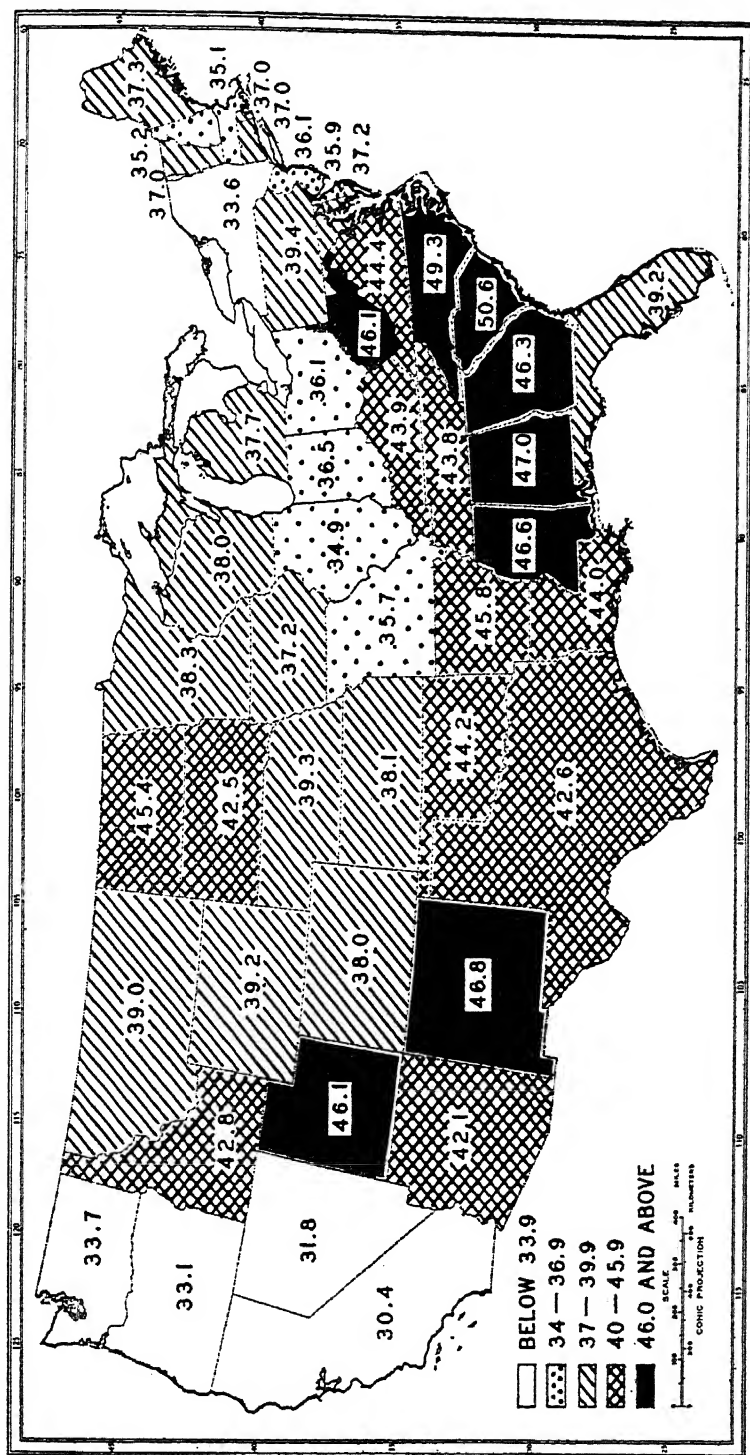


FIG. 125.—Per cent of population 19 years of age and under, 1930. Source: Same as for Table 93. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)



affecting variation in library development is the natural increase in population in areas where agriculture, manufacturing, mining, lumbering, or other wealth-producing activities yield only a bare subsistence income. The rate of natural increase in population, owing to excess of births over deaths, is notably higher in rural than in urban areas, and, unless the excess population from the less productive agricultural areas migrate to the highly industrial urban areas, a lowering of the present standards of living seems inevitable. Through the Scripps Foundation and the National Research Board two estimates have been

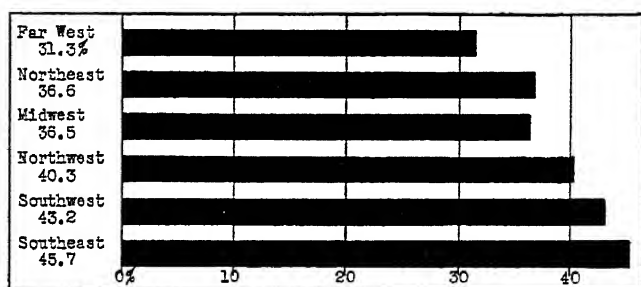


FIG. 126.—Regional summary of per cent of population 19 years of age, and under, 1930.

made of the probable increase in population by 1960. In one estimate the increase has been based upon the present tendency of migration from rural to urban areas. In this instance an increase in urban population of 19.3 per cent and an increase in rural population of 9.4 per cent would occur by 1960. But if there were no migration, urban population would decrease slightly, rural population would increase nearly 40 per cent, and rural farm population, 50 per cent. In speaking of these estimates in *Migration and Economic Opportunity*, the writer says:

While it may seem hard to imagine the cities sustaining a 20 per cent increase, it is, on the argument of this chapter, entirely impossible to think of the farms supporting 50 per cent more than their present population without a drastic lowering of living standards.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 496-97.

TABLE 94\*  
PER CENT INCREASE IN POPULATION, 1920-30

State	Rank	Per Cent Increase	Standard Score
California .....	1	65.7	4.25
Florida.....	2	51.6	3.08
Michigan . . . . .	3	32.0	1.47
Arizona .. . . .	4	30.3	1.33
New Jersey .....	5	28.1	1.15
Texas .....	6	24.9	0.88
North Carolina. . . .	7	23.9	0.80
Oregon . . . . .	8	21.8	0.63
New York. . . . .	9	21.2	0.58
Oklahoma .....	10	18.1	0.32
West Virginia . . . .	10	18.1	0.32
Illinois.. . . .	12	17.7	0.29
Nevada .. . . .	13	17.6	0.28
New Mexico .....	14	17.5	0.27
Louisiana... ..	15	16.9	0.22
Connecticut.....	16	16.4	0.18
Wyoming.....	17	16.0	0.15
Ohio .....	18	15.4	0.10
Washington.....	19	15.2	0.08
Rhode Island. . . . .	20	13.7	-0.04
Utah. ....	21	13.0	-0.10
Alabama .. . . .	22	12.7	-0.12
Maryland... ..	23	12.5	-0.14
Mississippi.....	24	12.2	-0.17
Tennessee .. . . .	25	11.9	-0.19
Wisconsin. ....	26	11.7	-0.21
Indiana... ..	27	10.5	-0.31
Pennsylvania.....	27	10.5	-0.31
Massachusetts.....	29	10.3	-0.32
Colorado .. . . .	30	10.2	-0.33
South Dakota .. . .	31	8.8	-0.45
Kentucky... ..	32	8.2	-0.50
Minnesota... ..	33	7.4	-0.56
Delaware .. . . .	34	6.9	-0.60
Missouri... ..	35	6.6	-0.63
Kansas.....	36	6.3	-0.65
Nebraska.....	36	6.3	-0.65
Arkansas.....	38	5.8	-0.69
North Dakota.....	39	5.3	-0.74
New Hampshire.....	40	5.0	-0.76
Virginia.....	41	4.9	-0.77
Maine... ..	42	3.8	-0.86
South Carolina.....	43	3.3	-0.90
Idaho ... ..	44	3.0	-0.93
Iowa... ..	45	2.8	-0.94
Vermont .....	46	2.0	-1.01
Georgia.....	47	0.4	-1.14
Montana.....	48	-2.1	-1.35

\* Source. *U.S. Census, 1930, Population, I, 15.*  
Mean per cent (based on per cents of the 48 states), 14.21; standard deviation, 12.12.

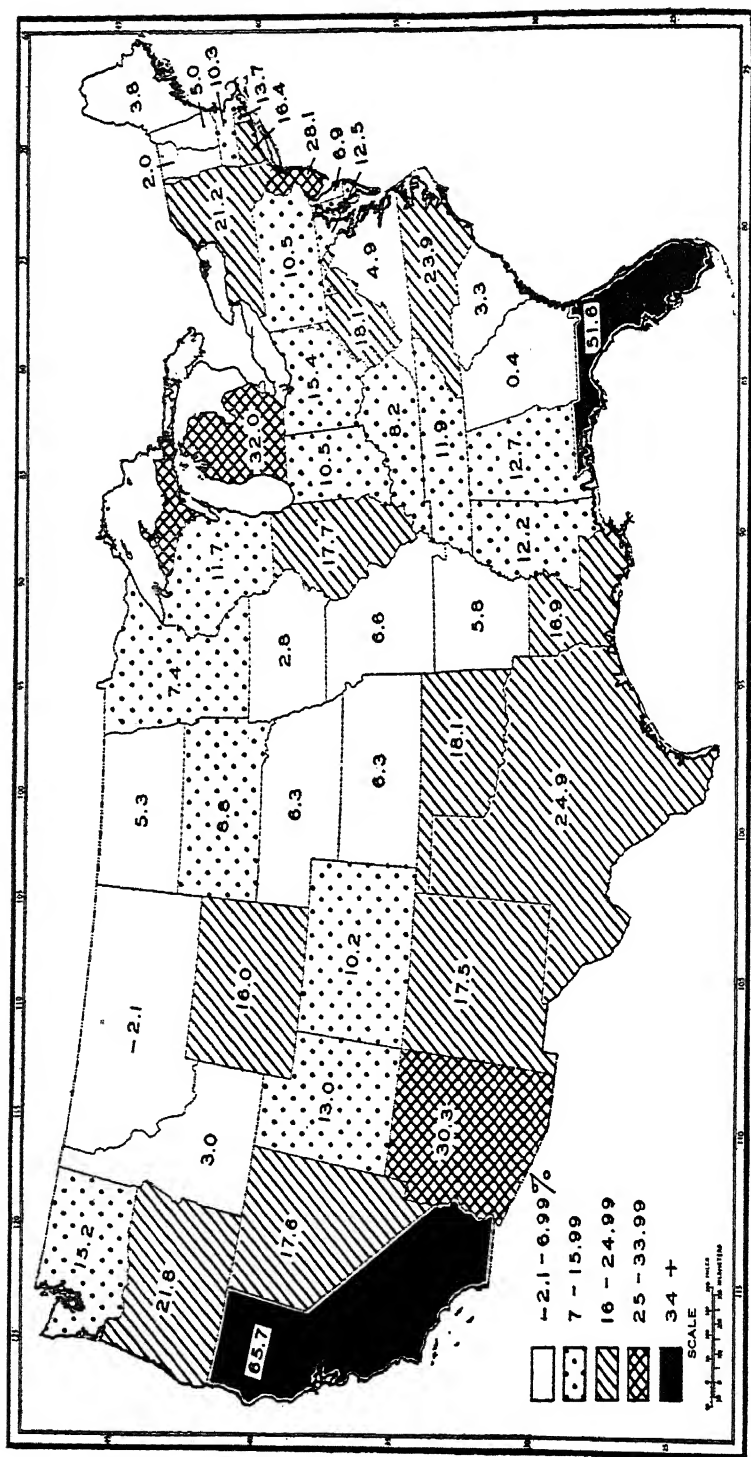


FIG. 127.—Per cent increase in population, 1920-30. Source: Same as for Table 94. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

Studies of the flow of population from cities to rural areas during 1931-33 showed clearly that, just as the drift from the farms to the cities had been from the poorer farming areas, so the return to the farms was largely to submarginal areas.<sup>14</sup>

As a result of migration and of the excess of birth-rate over death-rate, the increase in population in the 48 states has varied considerably. Table 94 and Figures 127 and 128 show the per cent of increase from all causes, 1920-30, and Table 95 and Figures 129 and 130 show the median size of families. Migration to resort states accounts largely for the great increase in population in California and Florida. Migration to manufacturing

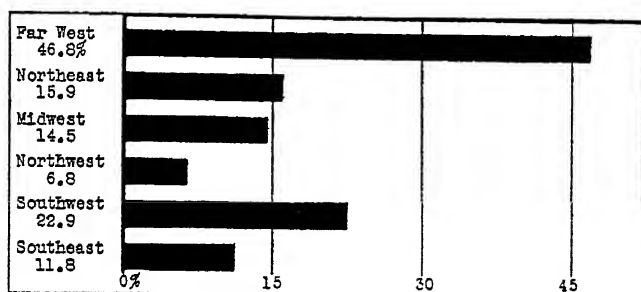


FIG. 128.—Regional summary of per cent increase in population, 1920-30

areas is indicated in Michigan, and natural increase, as reflected in median size of families, is shown in North and South Carolina. The effect of migration from Mexico is also shown in the Southwest.

The bearing of these data upon library development may not be instantly apparent. It is obvious, however, that the great influx of population into California between 1926 and 1935 had much to do with the lowering of per capita support for public libraries. This decrease was from \$1.08 to \$0.77. The increase in total support, however, was from \$3,709,682 to \$4,397,231; while the increase in population, between 1920 and 1930, was from 3,426,861 to 5,677,251. It is equally apparent that the migration of young men and women from rural and agricultural

<sup>14</sup> Carter Goodrich, "What Would Horace Greeley Say Now?" *Survey Graphic*, XXV (1936), 359.

TABLE 95\*  
MEDIAN SIZE OF FAMILIES, 1930

State	Rank	Median Size	Standard Score
North Carolina.. . . .	1	4.24	2.46
South Carolina.. . . .	2	4.10	2.03
West Virginia . . . . .	3	3.95	1.57
North Dakota. . . . .	4	3.94	1.54
Utah. . . . .	5	3.86	1.29
Virginia . . . . .	6	3.82	1.17
Alabama. . . . .	7	3.81	1.14
Georgia. . . . .	8	3.75	0.95
Tennessee. . . . .	9	3.70	0.80
New Mexico. . . . .	10	3.67	0.71
Kentucky. . . . .	11	3.66	0.68
South Dakota. . . . .	12	3.64	0.62
Arkansas. . . . .	13	3.61	0.52
Louisiana. . . . .	13	3.61	0.52
Pennsylvania. . . . .	13	3.61	0.52
Oklahoma. . . . .	16	3.60	0.49
Mississippi . . . . .	17	3.56	0.37
Texas. . . . .	18	3.53	0.28
Minnesota. . . . .	19	3.52	0.25
Idaho. . . . .	20	3.47	0.09
Maryland. . . . .	20	3.47	0.09
New Jersey. . . . .	20	3.47	0.09
Rhode Island . . . . .	20	3.47	0.09
Wisconsin. . . . .	20	3.47	0.09
Connecticut. . . . .	25	3.45	0.03
Massachusetts. . . . .	26	3.43	-0.03
Nebraska. . . . .	27	3.40	-0.12
Michigan. . . . .	28	3.37	-0.22
New York. . . . .	29	3.31	-0.40
Illinois . . . . .	30	3.30	-0.43
Arizona. . . . .	31	3.29	-0.46
Delaware. . . . .	32	3.28	-0.49
Iowa. . . . .	32	3.28	-0.49
Ohio. . . . .	32	3.28	-0.49
Kansas. . . . .	35	3.26	-0.55
Maine. . . . .	36	3.24	-0.62
Indiana. . . . .	37	3.23	-0.65
Vermont. . . . .	37	3.23	-0.65
Missouri. . . . .	39	3.20	-0.74
Wyoming. . . . .	40	3.18	-0.80
Colorado. . . . .	41	3.17	-0.83
Montana. . . . .	42	3.16	-0.86
Florida. . . . .	43	3.13	-0.95
New Hampshire . . . . .	44	3.12	-0.98
Washington. . . . .	45	3.00	-1.35
Oregon. . . . .	46	2.92	-1.60
California. . . . .	47	2.77	-2.06
Nevada. . . . .	48	2.50	-2.89

\* Source: *U.S. Census, 1930, Population, VI, Table 44, p. 37.*  
Mean (based on medians of the 48 states), 3.44; standard deviation, 0.324.

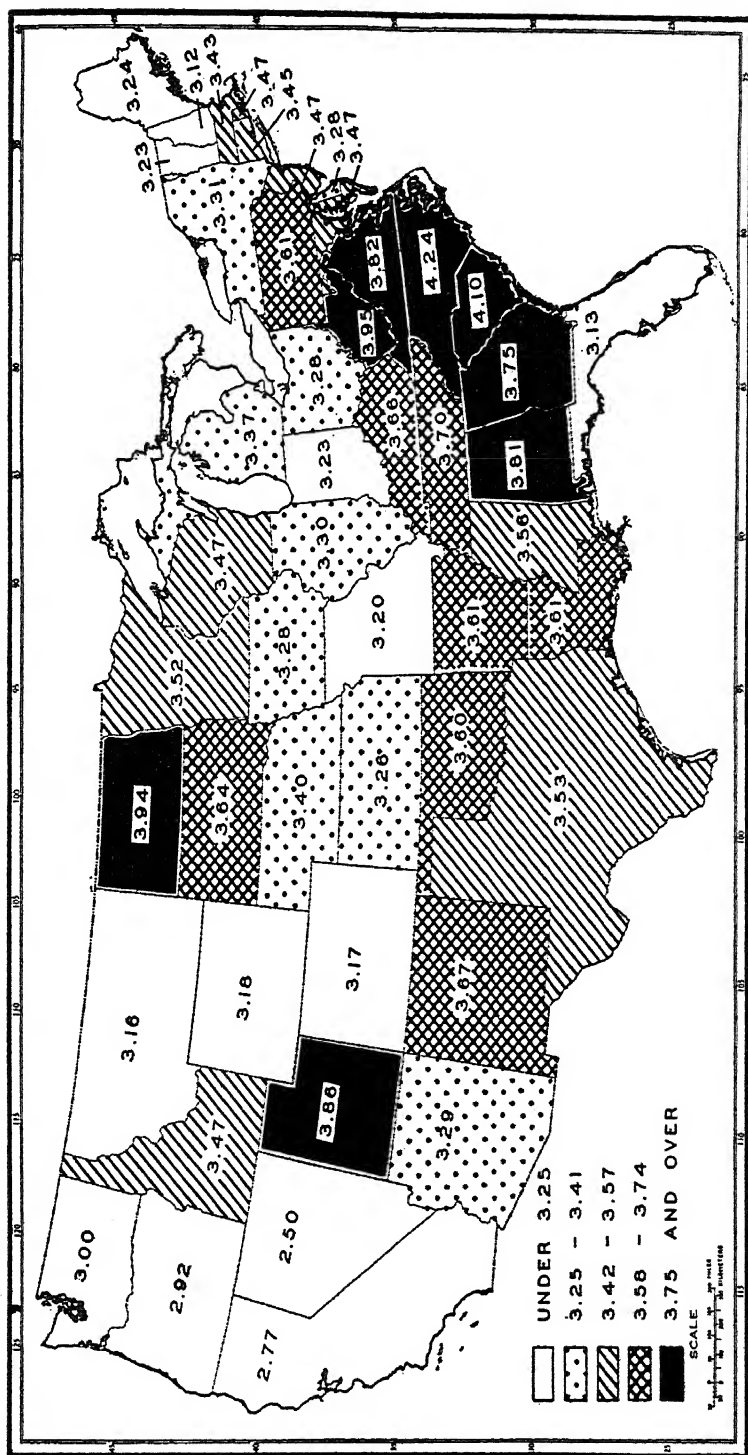


Fig. 129.—Median size of families, 1930. Source: Same as for Table 95. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

areas into urban and industrial ones leaves the burden of support of public agencies upon population groups in which the per cents of children and of old people are much higher than the national average.

Table 95 and Figures 129 and 130, which deal with the median size of families, merely add to the volume of evidence concerning the effect of large numbers of children in a given population. Of the ten states whose library index is highest, four have the lowest median size of families, and of the ten states whose library index is lowest, six have the highest median size of families. Regionally, the same situation is revealed, ex-

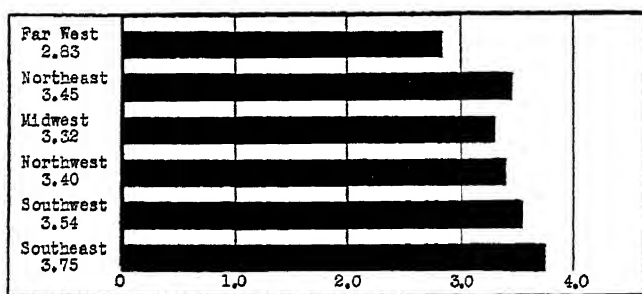


FIG. 130.—Regional summary of median size of families, 1930

cept that the Northeast, although ranking higher than the Northwest, the Southwest, and the Southeast in library development, more nearly approximates their rank in median size of families. The data also fail to support the opinion frequently held that the large size of families in the Southeast is primarily due to the number of children in Negro families. In all the states of this region the median size of the Negro family is actually lower than that of the white family. In seven states, nevertheless, the ratio of Negro children (5-13 years of age) to 1,000 Negro adults (20-64 years of age) is higher than that of white children to 1,000 white adults.<sup>15</sup> Probably one reason for the difference in ratios is the excessive migration during 1920-30

<sup>15</sup> These data were supplied by Mr. Newton Edwards, Professor of Education at the University of Chicago, who has compiled extensive tables on population for the American Youth Commission.

TABLE 96\*  
PER CENT OF POPULATION URBAN, 1930

State	Rank	Per Cent Urban	Standard Score
Rhode Island.....	1	92.4	2.35
Massachusetts.....	2	90.2	2.24
New York.....	3	83.6	1.91
New Jersey.....	4	82.6	1.86
Illinois.....	5	73.9	1.41
California.....	6	73.3	1.38
Connecticut.....	7	70.4	1.23
Michigan.....	8	68.2	1.13
Ohio.....	9	67.8	1.11
Pennsylvania.....	9	67.8	1.11
Maryland.....	11	59.8	0.70
New Hampshire.....	12	58.7	0.64
Washington.....	13	56.6	0.54
Indiana.....	14	55.5	0.48
Wisconsin.....	15	52.9	0.35
Utah.....	16	52.4	0.32
Delaware.....	17	51.7	0.29
Florida.....	17	51.7	0.29
Oregon.....	19	51.3	0.27
Missouri.....	20	51.2	0.26
Colorado.....	21	50.2	0.21
Minnesota.....	22	49.0	0.15
Texas.....	23	41.0	-0.25
Maine.....	24	40.3	-0.29
Louisiana.....	25	39.7	-0.32
Iowa.....	26	39.6	-0.33
Kansas.....	27	38.8	-0.37
Nevada.....	28	37.8	-0.42
Nebraska.....	29	35.3	-0.54
Arizona.....	30	34.4	-0.59
Oklahoma.....	31	34.3	-0.59
Tennessee.....	31	34.3	-0.59
Montana.....	33	33.7	-0.63
Vermont.....	34	33.0	-0.66
Virginia.....	35	32.4	-0.69
Wyoming.....	36	31.1	-0.76
Georgia.....	37	30.8	-0.77
Kentucky.....	38	30.6	-0.78
Idaho.....	39	29.1	-0.86
West Virginia.....	40	28.4	-0.89
Alabama.....	41	28.1	-0.91
North Carolina.....	42	25.5	-1.04
New Mexico.....	43	25.2	-1.06
South Carolina.....	44	21.3	-1.25
Arkansas.....	45	20.6	-1.29
South Dakota.....	46	18.9	-1.38
Mississippi.....	47	16.9	-1.48
North Dakota.....	48	16.6	-1.49

\* Source: *U. S. Census, 1930, Population*, I, Table 9, p. 15.  
Mean per cent (based on per cents of the 48 states), 46.02; standard deviation, 19.71.



of many adult Negroes to the industrial areas of the Northeast and the Middle West.

Another factor falling under the category of population influences is that of urban versus rural development in the United States. In chapter i, the major problem of library development in the nation is set down as the problem of providing library facilities for the 40,000,000 rural dwellers now without them. According to the prevailing tendency the problem is rightly considered a rural one, although where legislation and other conditioning factors highly favorable to county library development have been operative, as in California, Wyoming, Indiana, and New Jersey, library service is well developed in rural, sparsely settled areas. Mr. Purdy has shown on a strictly statistical basis that urbanization is closely associated with economic ability as a conditioning factor in library development; for it is clear that the regions which rank high in per cent of urban population also rank high in library service.<sup>16</sup> Mr. Wirth, in discussing the nature of the effects of urbanization upon the distribution of the various facilities of communication, concludes that the distribution of radios and magazines, for example, is less extensive in regions where the populations are largely rural than where they are largely urban.<sup>17</sup> And Mr. Brunner, in his study of 140 rural communities, shows that as the size of towns and villages diminish, library service, adult education classes, and other co-operative enterprises and services tend to decrease or to disappear entirely.<sup>18</sup>

Table 96 and Figures 131 and 132 show the variations in per cent of urban population of the forty-eight states. The figures also show that three regions, the Far West, the Northeast, and the Midwest, have more than 50 per cent of their population urban, while the Southeast, Southwest, and Northwest have

<sup>16</sup> Purdy, *op. cit.*, pp. 59-61.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. National Resources Committee, Research Committee on Urbanism ["A Study of Communication Facilities"]. (MS in preparation.)

<sup>18</sup> E. deS. Brunner and Irving Lorge, *Rural Trends in Depression Years, 1930-1936* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1937), p. 229.

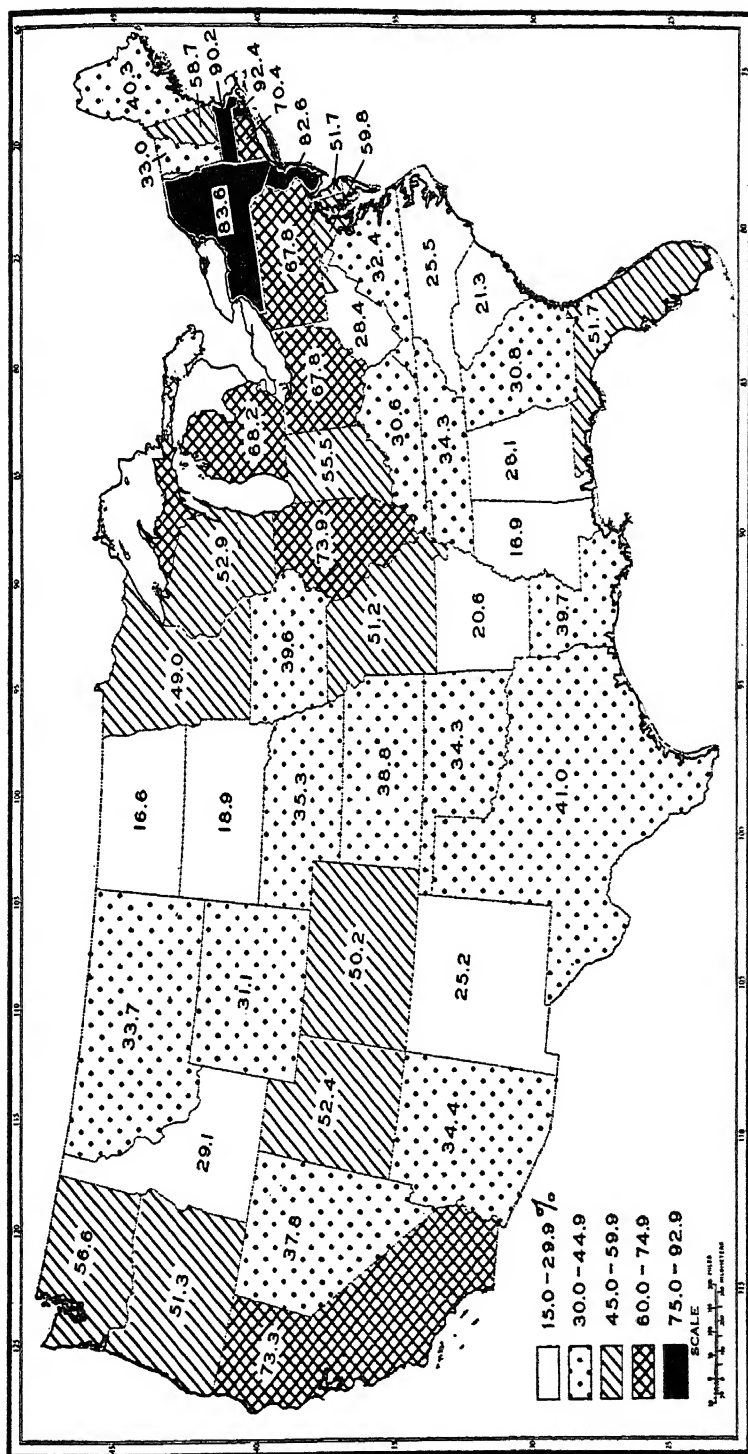


FIG. 131.—Per cent of population urban, 1930. Source: Same as for Table 96. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

less. Extensive variation also exists within the regions themselves. In the Far West the range by states is from 73.3 to 37.8; in the Northwest, from 52.4 to 18.9; in the Southwest, from 41.0 to 25.2; in the Southeast from 51.7 to 16.9; in the Midwest from 73.9 to 39.6; and in the Northeast from 92.4 to 28.4. Rhode Island ranks highest in urban population, Mississippi and North Dakota, lowest. If the index of library development (Fig. 50) is compared with the per cent of urban population (Fig. 131) the interesting relationship between the two is clearly shown. Twenty-one states are in the same interval. In the twenty which vary one interval, library development is found to be

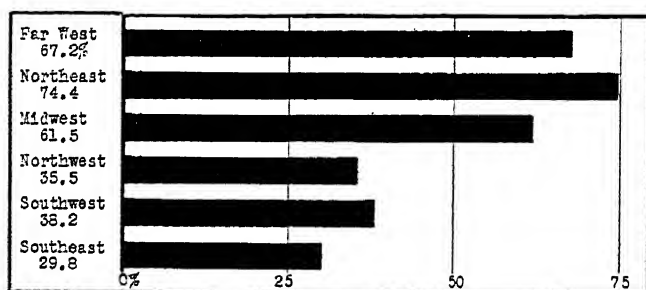


FIG. 132.—Regional summary of per cent of population urban, 1930

one interval higher than per cent of urban population in eleven of the states, and one interval lower in nine. Library development is two intervals higher than per cent of urban population in four states, Maine, Nevada, New Hampshire, and Oregon, and two lower in one (Pennsylvania), while in Vermont and Wyoming it is three intervals higher.

If the comparison is carried out on the regional basis, the correspondence between library development and urbanization becomes even more pronounced. Figure 51 (Regional summary of index of public library development) shows that the Far West, the Northeast, and the Midwest rank highest in library development. They all stand above the national average, while the Northwest, the Southwest, and the Southeast stand below it. Similarly, the former are from 61.5 to 74.4 per cent urban, whereas the latter are from 29.8 to 38.2 per cent urban.

TABLE 97\*  
PER CENT OF POPULATION FOREIGN-BORN WHITE, 1930

State	Rank	Per Cent Foreign-Born White	Standard Score
New York. . . . .	1	25.4	2 21
Massachusetts. . . .	2	24.8	2 13
Rhode Island . . . .	2	24.8	2 13
Connecticut . . . . .	4	23.8	2 00
New Jersey . . . . .	5	20.9	1 60
New Hampshire . . . .	6	17.8	1 19
Michigan. . . . .	7	17.4	1 13
Illinois. . . . .	8	16.0	0 94
Washington. . . . .	9	15.6	0 89
North Dakota . . . .	10	15.4	0 86
Minnesota . . . . .	11	15.1	0 82
California. . . . .	12	14.3	0 71
Montana . . . . .	13	13.6	0 62
Nevada. . . . .	14	13.5	0 60
Wisconsin. . . . .	15	13.1	0 55
Pennsylvania . . . . .	16	12.8	0 51
Maine. . . . .	17	12.6	0 48
Vermont. . . . .	18	12.0	0 40
Oregon. . . . .	19	11.1	0 28
Ohio . . . . .	20	9.7	0 09
South Dakota . . . . .	21	9.5	0 06
Wyoming. . . . .	22	8.7	-0 04
Utah. . . . .	23	8.6	-0 06
Nebraska . . . . .	24	8.4	-0 08
Colorado . . . . .	25	8.2	-0 11
Delaware. . . . .	26	7.1	-0 26
Idaho. . . . .	27	6.8	-0 30
Iowa . . . . .	28	6.7	-0 31
Maryland. . . . .	29	5.8	-0 44
Indiana. . . . .	30	4.2	-0 65
Missouri . . . . .	31	4.1	-0 67
Florida. . . . .	32	4.0	-0 68
Kansas. . . . .	33	3.7	-0 72
Arizona. . . . .	34	3.6	-0 73
West Virginia . . . .	35	3.0	-0 81
New Mexico. . . . .	36	1.8	-0 98
Texas . . . . .	37	1.7	-0 99
Louisiana . . . . .	37	1.7	-0 99
Oklahoma. . . . .	39	1.1	-1.07
Virginia. . . . .	40	1.0	-1.08
Kentucky. . . . .	41	0.8	-1.11
Alabama. . . . .	42	0.6	-1.14
Arkansas . . . . .	43	0.5	-1.15
Georgia. . . . .	43	0.5	-1.15
Tennessee. . . . .	43	0.5	-1.15
Mississippi. . . . .	46	0.4	-1.17
South Carolina . . . .	47	0.3	-1.18
North Carolina. . . .	47	0.3	-1.18

\* Source: *U. S. Census, 1930, Population, II, Table 13, p. 37.*  
Mean per cent (based on per cents of the 48 states), 9.02, standard deviation, 7.40.

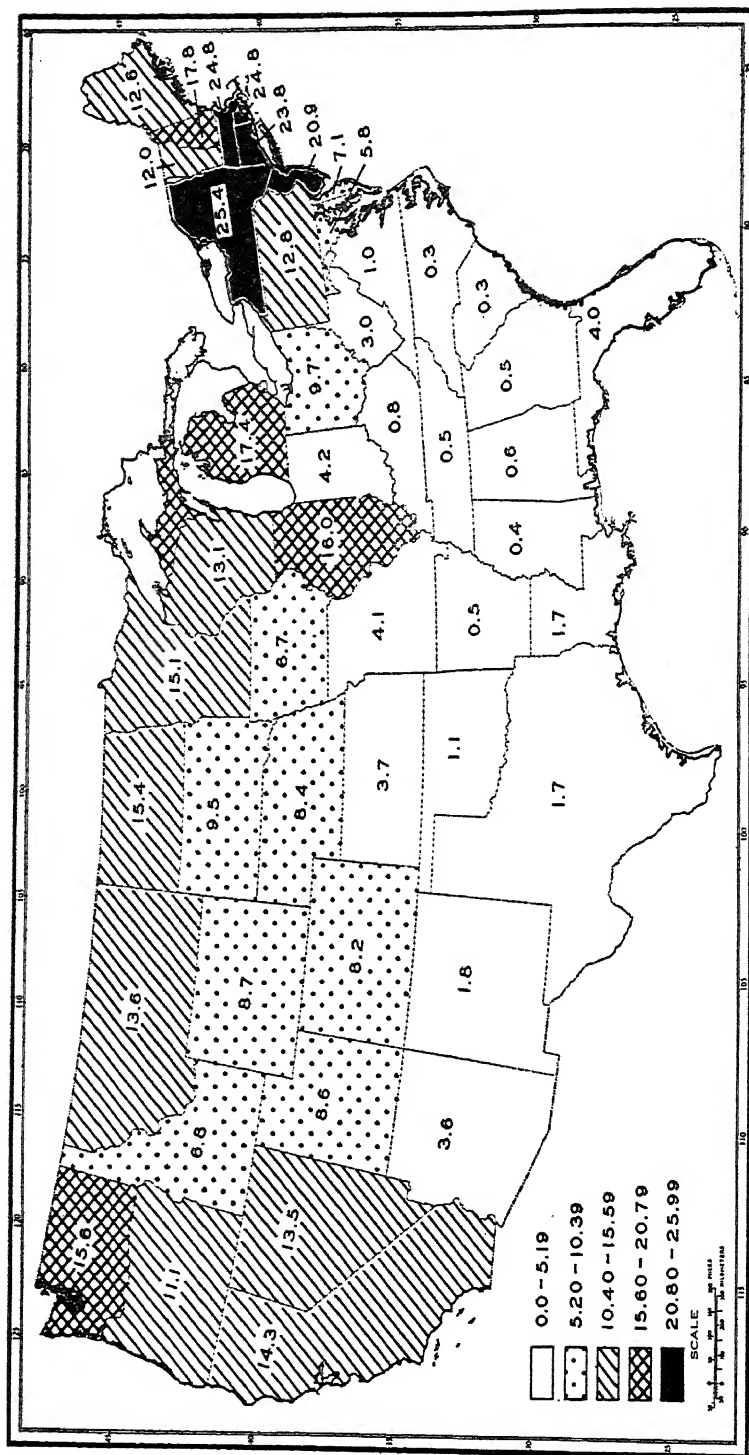


FIG. 133.—Per cent of population foreign-born white, 1930. Source: Same as for Table 97. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

The composition of population has also had its effect upon library development, though the difficulties of showing the nature of this effect are too obvious to require elaboration. The United States has frequently been called the melting pot of the nations, and to its total population and its varying cultural patterns the countries and the races of the world have contributed. From this general field, however, two sets of data may be drawn to indicate possible relationships between the composition of population and the provision of library facilities. The first data presented in Table 97 and Figures 133 and 134 relate to the per cent of total population of foreign-born whites in



FIG. 134.—Regional summary of per cent of population foreign-born white, 1930

1930. In certain states, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, for example, this per cent ranges from 25.4 to 23.8, respectively, whereas in nine of the states in the Southeast the range is from 1 per cent (Virginia) to 0.3 per cent (North and South Carolina). For a century, immigration from European countries, with its accompanying infusion of different ideas and cultures, has largely passed by the Southeast, while there has been a constant infiltration of foreign elements into the Northeast, the Midwest, the Northwest, and the Far West. The public library offered an opportunity to such incoming foreigners to shorten their period of adjustment to American situations. Their subsequent demand for such an institution undoubtedly has contributed to its increasing provision and has influenced the character of the book collections in hundreds of communities where large numbers of foreign elements exist.

TABLE 98\*  
PER CENT OF POPULATION NEGRO, 1930

State	Rank	Per Cent Negro	Standard Score
Mississippi. . . . .	1	50.2	3.02
South Carolina. . . . .	2	45.6	2.68
Louisiana. . . . .	3	36.9	2.03
Georgia. . . . .	4	36.8	2.02
Alabama. . . . .	5	35.7	1.94
Florida. . . . .	6	29.4	1.48
North Carolina. . . . .	7	29.0	1.45
Virginia. . . . .	8	26.8	1.28
Arkansas. . . . .	9	25.8	1.21
Tennessee. . . . .	10	18.3	0.65
Maryland. . . . .	11	16.9	0.55
Texas. . . . .	12	14.7	0.39
Delaware. . . . .	13	13.7	0.31
Kentucky. . . . .	14	8.6	-0.07
Oklahoma. . . . .	15	7.2	-0.17
West Virginia. . . . .	16	6.6	-0.22
Missouri. . . . .	17	6.2	-0.25
New Jersey. . . . .	18	5.2	-0.32
Ohio. . . . .	19	4.7	-0.36
Pennsylvania. . . . .	20	4.5	-0.37
Illinois. . . . .	21	4.3	-0.39
Indiana. . . . .	22	3.5	-0.45
Kansas. . . . .	22	3.5	-0.45
Michigan. . . . .	22	3.5	-0.45
New York. . . . .	25	3.3	-0.46
Arizona. . . . .	26	2.5	-0.52
Connecticut. . . . .	27	1.8	-0.57
Rhode Island. . . . .	28	1.4	-0.60
California. . . . .	28	1.4	-0.60
Massachusetts. . . . .	30	1.2	-0.62
Colorado. . . . .	31	1.1	-0.62
Nebraska. . . . .	32	1.0	-0.63
New Mexico. . . . .	33	0.7	-0.65
Iowa. . . . .	33	0.7	-0.65
Nevada. . . . .	35	0.6	-0.66
Wyoming. . . . .	35	0.6	-0.66
Wisconsin. . . . .	37	0.4	-0.68
Washington. . . . .	37	0.4	-0.68
Minnesota. . . . .	37	0.4	-0.68
Vermont. . . . .	40	0.2	-0.69
Utah. . . . .	40	0.2	-0.69
Oregon. . . . .	40	0.2	-0.69
New Hampshire. . . . .	40	0.2	-0.69
Montana. . . . .	40	0.2	-0.69
Idaho. . . . .	40	0.2	-0.69
South Dakota. . . . .	46	0.1	-0.70
North Dakota. . . . .	46	0.1	-0.70
Maine. . . . .	46	0.1	-0.70

\* Source: *U S Census, 1930, Population, II, Table 14, p. 38.*  
Mean per cent (based on per cents of the 48 states), 9.51, standard deviation, 13.48.

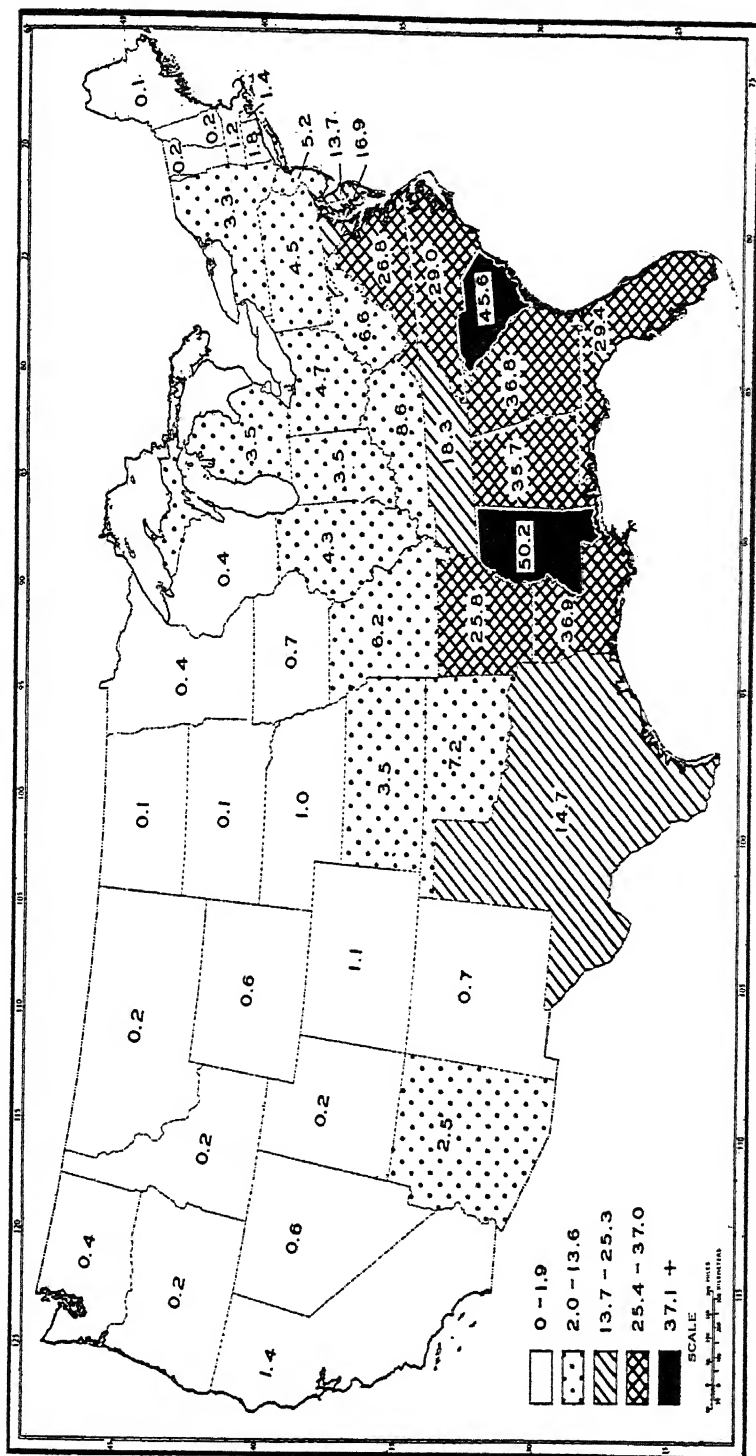


FIG. 135.—Per cent of population Negro, 1930. Source: Same as for Table 98. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)



Table 98 and Figures 135 and 136 relate to the second aspect of composition of population which may be reflected in library development. They show what per cent of the total population is Negro. This population is largely centered in the Southeast, though migration to urban industrial centers in the Northeast and Midwest during the 1920's modified the situation in several states. The difficulties of support of dual institutions, the inequalities in provision for education and other public services, the large size of families, the high rate of illiteracy, and the excess of rural population have already been noted as contributing to the total cultural pattern of the region, and they

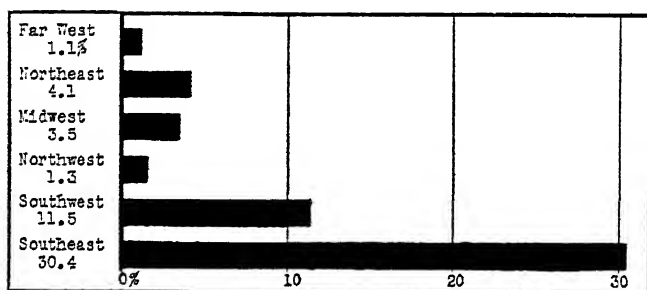


FIG. 136.—Regional summary of per cent of population Negro, 1930

may account in considerable measure for the backwardness in library development which characterizes the region.

The difficulty of generalizing concerning the part played by nativity and race in shaping the library map of America is so great that interpretation of the tables and figures dealing with these matters must, to a large extent, be left to the reader. It may be pointed out, however, that of the ten states which have the highest library development, four have the highest per cent of foreign-born, and three the lowest per cent of Negroes; whereas, of fifteen states having the lowest library index, twelve have the lowest per cent of foreign-born whites, and twelve, the highest per cent of Negroes. The regional summaries, in Figures 134 and 136, by their sharp reversal, vividly portray these differences when the situation is regarded from the total national point of view.

## SUMMARY

Any effort to account accurately for the library in the cultural pattern of America is fraught with well-nigh insuperable difficulties. The nation is made up of forty-eight states and embraces six major regions. The regions comprise a varying number of subregions and diversified areas; complexity characterizes every aspect of the nation's life.

This chapter has undertaken to deal with variations in the development of the library map of the United States which may be attributed in large measure to differences in geography (or environment) and population, since both have contributed extensively to the inequalities discovered. The study of the geographical aspects of the nation reveals that they have profoundly affected its cultural development. Deforestation, soil erosion, dust storms, land rendered submarginal in any way, bar the path to adequate local support of social agencies such as the school and the library and offer convincing evidence that social institutions cannot be supported adequately in an economic vacuum.

The part played by urbanization, by proportion of children to adults in the total population, by median size of families, by migration from state to state, or from region to region, by race, and by nativity is equally important and, perhaps, even more difficult to analyze. The library, if it is to be successfully introduced into all parts of rural America, will have to overcome obstacles inherent in the provision of public services for sparsely settled areas. New devices, new procedures must be provided. The nation, likewise, may be forced to come to grips with the fact that the provision of certain essential services for large population groups containing a high percentage of children will require aid through federal funds. The fact that such areas are major contributors to the growth of urban and industrial centers makes this a matter of the greatest importance. Finally, although nativity and race largely defy characterization and specification with respect to the influence they have exerted

in national development, they also must be considered realistically. America, as has been said, has been the veritable melting pot of the nations, and the American public library, as thousands of foreigners who have become American citizens have testified, has been one of the major agencies through which the melting process has been effected. It should now be so supported as to bring into high relief the qualities of excellence which the various elements of the total population may contribute to the America of tomorrow.

## CHAPTER XIV

### ECONOMIC ABILITY

**S**TUDENTS of education have long attempted to measure the relative ability of different areas to support adequate educational systems. They have used numerous indices of cost of living and of economic ability, most of which have served their purpose in demonstrating wide inequalities between regions, states, counties, and smaller units in their ability to support schools. Three of the most important of these have recently been developed by Mr. Mort in *Federal Support for Public Education*,<sup>1</sup> by Mr. and Mrs. Norton in *Wealth, Children and Education*,<sup>2</sup> and by Mr. Chism, in *The Economic Ability of the States to Finance Public Schools*.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Cheney constructed an "index of relative economic level" based on "available income, retail purchases, automobile ownership, etc.," in an attempt to evaluate the success or failure of the distribution policies and techniques of the book trade industry. He likewise constructed a "potential sales index" for books "based on cultural and economic indices" which he compared with actual book sales in each state, and concluded that the book market was underdeveloped in states for which the potential sales index considerably exceeded the actual sales index.<sup>4</sup> Mr. Goodrich developed a plane-of-living index for each of the 3,071 counties of the United States, choosing as the bases of this index: (1) the

<sup>1</sup> P. R. Mort, *Federal Support for Public Education* (New York: Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, 1936), p. 105.

<sup>2</sup> J. K. Norton and M. A. Norton, *Wealth, Children and Education* (New York: Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, 1937), pp. 68-69.

<sup>3</sup> L. L. Chism, *The Economic Ability of the States to Finance Public Schools*. Teachers College Contributions to Education, No. 669 (New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1936), p. 124.

<sup>4</sup> O. H. Cheney, *Economic Survey of the Book Industry, 1930-1931* (New York: National Association of Book Publishers, 1931), p. 62.

number of individual federal income tax returns for 1928, (2) the number of residence telephones in use January 1, 1930, and (3) the number of families who reported radio sets to the 1930 census.<sup>5</sup>

In all these studies, economic ability has been shown to be significantly related to school support, book distribution, and the prevailing standard of living. In the case of the schools, the data have been collected over so long a period and have been so carefully treated that the conclusions reached concerning both ability and effort of the states to support education are convincingly validated and generally accepted by the public.

The relation of economic ability to library development and expenditure, however, has not been subjected to equally extensive study. Mr. Purdy has shown that the relationship is significant; but his study covers only seven states in the Middle West, and data concerning libraries have not been generally available for exact studies of this nature. In the case of these seven states, however, Mr. Purdy found that "approximately 63 per cent of the variation in public library expenditures is associated with wealth as measured by the economic index."<sup>6</sup> Library service is not a personal necessity in the sense that food and shelter are necessities, nor a social necessity in the sense that police and fire departments are essential. Hence, a community first supplies itself with those services which are immediately essential to its existence, and next establishes and maintains such other services as it considers pre-eminently desirable for its permanent well-being. In the poor community few or no economic resources may exist above the level of bare personal and social subsistence. In such a community the library, the school, and even the bill of fare may suffer unless outside aid comes to the rescue. The problem presented in this chapter, then, is to determine the variation in economic ability

<sup>5</sup> Carter Goodrich *et al.*, *Migration and Economic Opportunity* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1936), p. 18.

<sup>6</sup> G. F. Purdy, "Public Library Service in the Middle West" (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1936), pp. 72-73.

TABLE 99\*  
MEAN ANNUAL INCOME PER CAPITA, 1929-33, COMPARED  
WITH LIBRARY EXPENDITURE, 1934

STATE	RANK	PER CAPITA INCOME	STANDARD SCORE	
			Per Capita Income	Library Expenditure
Connecticut.....	1	\$749	1.51	1 84
New York.....	2	743	1 48	1 33
Rhode Island.....	3	725	1 37	1.20
California.....	4	716	1.32	1.96
New Jersey.....	5	715	1 31	1.20
Illinois.....	6	702	1 23	0.78
Massachusetts.....	7	694	1.19	3 27
Delaware.....	8	680	1.10	0 52
Pennsylvania.....	9	663	1 00	-0 19
Nevada.....	10	648	0 91	0.35
Ohio.....	11	633	0 82	1.58
Wyoming.....	12	631	0 81	0.65
Iowa.....	13	617	0 73	-0 20
Michigan.....	14	613	0 70	0.31
Montana.....	15	605	0.66	-0.36
Nebraska.....	16	590	0 57	-0.36
Wisconsin.....	17	588	0 56	0.57
Indiana.....	18	570	0 45	0.52
Washington.....	19	569	0.44	0.48
New Hampshire.....	20	566	0 42	1.24
Vermont.....	21	559	0 38	0 44
Maryland.....	22	552	0 34	-0 15
Oregon.....	23	536	0 25	1 07
Kansas.....	24	531	0 22	-0 49
Colorado.....	25	530	0.21	0 02
Minnesota.....	26	521	0 16	0 35
Maine.....	27	513	0 11	-0.24
Idaho.....	28	510	0 09	-0 53
Missouri.....	29	484	-0 06	-0 28
Arizona.....	30	483	-0 07	-0 99
South Dakota.....	31	461	-0 20	-0 40
Utah.....	32	441	-0.32	0 02
West Virginia.....	33	405	-0.54	-1 04
Texas.....	34	384	-0 66	-0.87
North Dakota.....	35	366	-0.77	-0 87
Florida.....	36	355	-0.83	-0.74
New Mexico.....	37	346	-0 89	-1.08
Oklahoma.....	38	345	-0 89	-0 87
Virginia.....	39	340	-0 92	-0.96
North Carolina.....	40	313	-1 08	-1.04
Louisiana.....	41	303	-1.14	-1 04
Kentucky.....	42	252	-1 45	-0 87
Tennessee.....	43	246	-1.48	-0.79
Georgia.....	44	221	-1 63	-1 00
South Carolina.....	45	201	-1.75	-0 87
Alabama.....	46	192	-1.80	-1.04
Arkansas.....	47	185	-1.85	-1.21
Mississippi.....	48	160	-2.00	-1.21

\* Source: Brookmire Econ. Serv., Inc., "Income of the American People, 1920-1933," *Brookmire Special Reports: Brief Analysis of Timely Subjects* (May 11, 1934), Table 19, pp. 3-4.  
Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$495; standard deviation, \$168.

among the forty-eight states and the six regions of the United States, and to show the extent to which inequalities in library service may be explained by corresponding inequalities in wealth.

At least five types of statistics are conventionally employed in comparing the economic ability of different areas. These are: (1) statistics of personal income, which probably are the most appropriate for the purposes of this study; (2) statistics of accumulated wealth in the form of property, investments and the like, which are pertinent to the extent that they provide a taxation base; (3) data on the value of goods produced within an area, which value, though perhaps the best measure of true wealth, presents difficulties in interpretation; (4) information concerning the consumption of goods and services; and (5) measures of tax-paying ability as determined by applying a uniform tax system. Examples of all five types, as well as a composite index, are used in this chapter in order that the special bearing of each type on the existence of library facilities may be suggested and the extent and nature of the association between economic ability and library development carefully scrutinized.

#### PERSONAL INCOME

*Per capita income.*—Of the various available studies of actual income, those prepared by the Brookmire Economic Service<sup>7</sup> seem most appropriate for use here. Table 99 and Figure 137 present data concerning the mean annual per capita income of the people of each state for the five-year period from 1929 to 1933. While the data on which the table and figure are based are open to numerous theoretical criticisms, there is good reason to believe that they represent something very similar to the actual distribution of income among the various states.

If per capita income (Fig. 137) is compared with library development, as summarized in the library index presented previously (Fig. 50), it is evident that twenty-three states are in the

<sup>7</sup> Brookmire Economic Service, Inc., "Income of the American People, 1920-1933," *Brookmire Special Reports: Brief Analysis of Timely Subjects* (May 11, 1934), pp. 3-4.

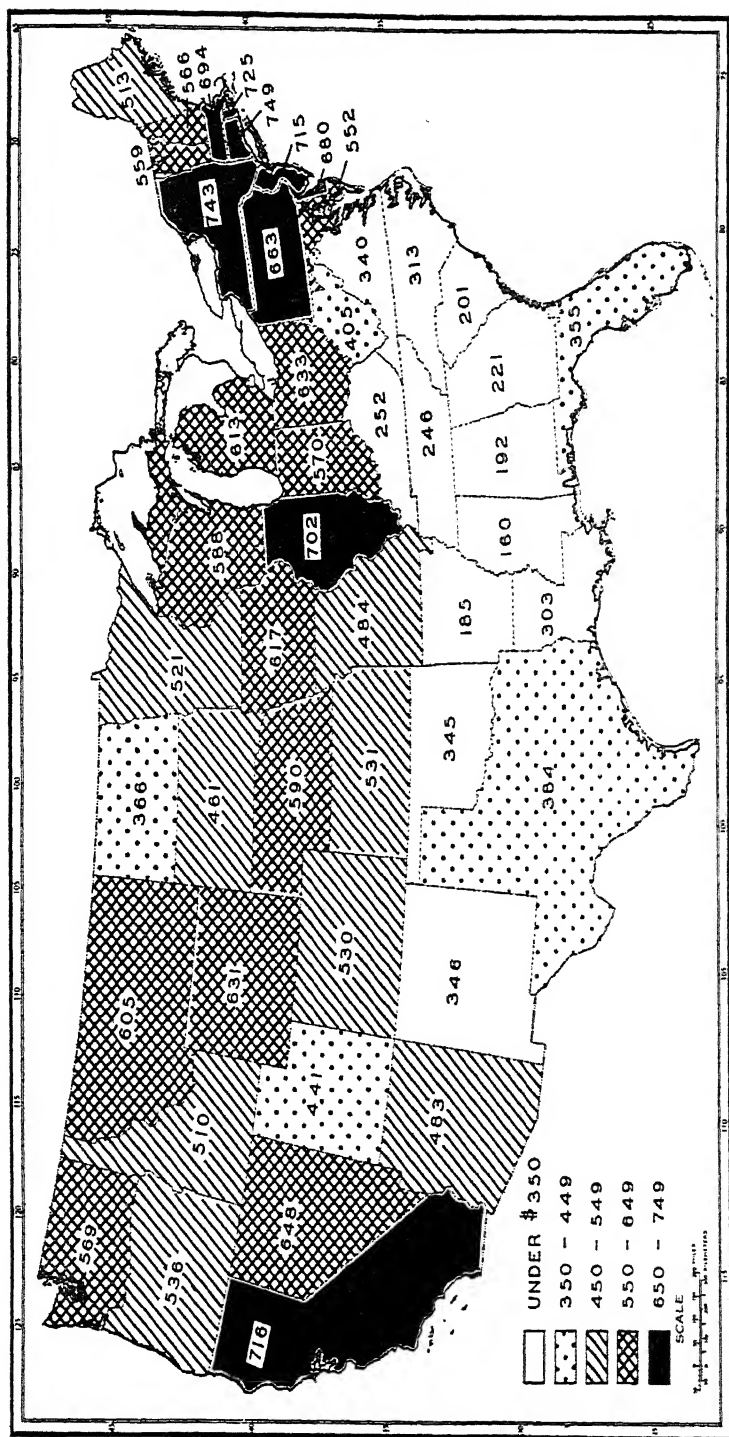


FIG. 137.—Mean annual income per capita, 1929-33. Source: Same as for Table 99. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)



same interval with respect to libraries as with respect to per capita income, while one state varies two intervals, and one state, three. Pennsylvania stands three intervals higher with respect to per capita income than with respect to library service. Oregon ranks two intervals higher in library development than in income. The maximum degree of consistency between the two maps is found in the southeastern states which rank uniformly low in both.

Figure 138 presents the income data by regions. These data show a smaller regional variation than do the library data.

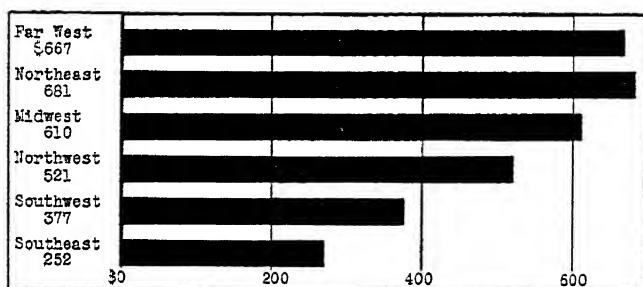


FIG. 138.—Regional summary of mean annual income per capita, 1929-33

Comparing Figure 138 with Figure 19 (Regional summary of per capita expenditure for public libraries), it is found that the Far West spends almost ten times as much money on public libraries, in proportion to population, as does the Southeast, while per capita incomes average only 2.6 times as high in the Far West as in the Southeast. This may be interpreted to suggest that in the Southeast the average income does not exceed, in general, the subsistence level, while in the Far West the average income provides a sufficient excess above subsistence to permit ten times the amount of support of public libraries which is possible in the Southeast. Again, it may reflect a difference in attitude held by the two regions as to the value of library service. It may also reflect the prevalence of county library service, and hence greater library coverage, in the Far West, since 45 per cent of the counties in that region have

county library service, as contrasted with only 4 per cent in the Southeast.<sup>8</sup>

Upon the assumption that library development is largely dependent upon economic ability to support libraries, a high degree of correlation would be expected to exist between expenditure for public library purposes and per capita income. An examination of the maps portraying the two (Figs. 18 and 137), to a large extent verifies this expectation. Twenty states are in the same interval on both maps; six states vary two intervals;

TABLE 100\*  
SEVEN STATES COMPARED WITH RESPECT TO STANDARD  
SCORE OF PUBLIC LIBRARY EXPENDITURE AND  
OF PER CAPITA INCOME

State	Library Expenditure	Per Capita Income
Arizona.. . . .	-0 99	-0 07
Montana . . . . .	-0 36	0 66
Nebraska . . . . .	-0 36	0 57
Iowa.... . . . .	-0 20	0.73
Maryland.. . . .	-0 15	0.34
Pennsylvania ... . .	-0 19	1.00
Delaware.... . . .	0 52	1.10

\* Source: Tables 19 and 99.

Pennsylvania, three. All of the seven states showing variation of two or more intervals rank higher with respect to per capita income than with respect to library expenditures. The standard scores indicating the variation are given in Table 100.

In so far as the data for per capita income are fairly representative of ability to support library service, it is clear that these seven states are more backward with respect to support of libraries than are the southeastern states, for example, which rank lower in library expenditure, but also rank correspondingly lower in per capita income. Thus it might be said, with proper

<sup>8</sup> Computed on basis of data from C. B. Joeckel, *The Government of the American Public Library* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), Table 14, pp. 321-22.

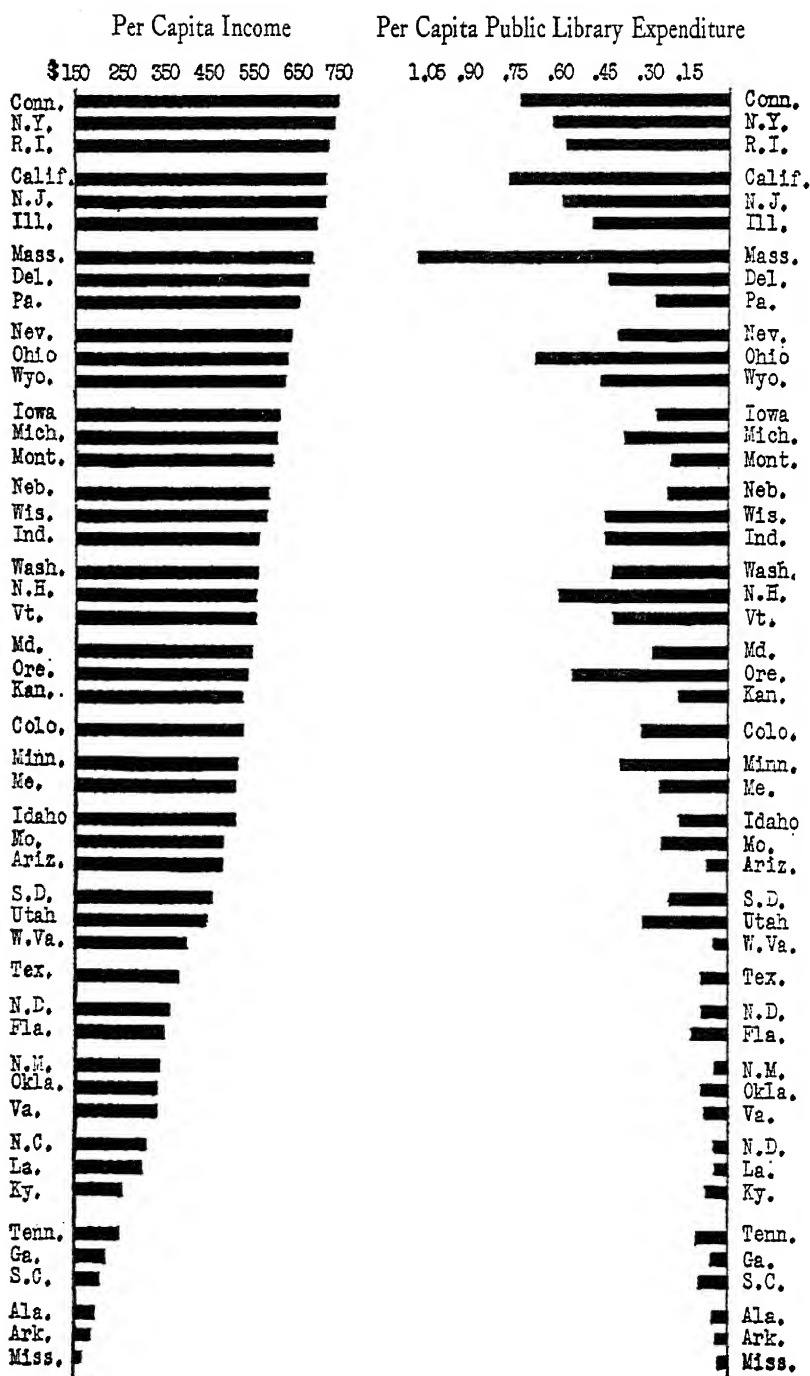


FIG. 139.—Comparison of per capita income and per capita public library expenditure

reservations, that library service in the Southeast is inadequately supported partly because that region cannot afford adequate support. However, it is true that in the seven states library expenditure is lower than per capita income would lead one to expect. The status of the other states may be compared by means of the appropriate tables.

Figure 139 presents in graphic form the relative status of each of the forty-eight states in per capita income and in library expenditure. In general, states which rank high in per capita income also rank high in their support of public library service. This consistency is particularly pronounced among the states of low per capita income. A few states which rank relatively high in income rank relatively low in library expenditure.

*Income tax payments.*—Another index of income is the amount of money paid as income taxes. This index may be considered a crude measure of the gross excess of income above a fairly adequate subsistence figure, and also a measure of the relative amounts of money which might be made available for public services by means of income taxes. It would thus appear that income tax receipts, adjusted to population, might provide a better index of ability to support library service than would the statistics of per capita income. Superficial comparison of Figure 140 with figures 50 and 137 reveals little correlation between per capita income tax payments and library development, or even between per capita income tax payments and per capita income. A more careful scrutiny of the tables, however, shows that California, Nevada, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Illinois rank consistently high in library development and in each measure of income, while the southeastern states rank consistently low in both library development and per capita income tax payments. Arkansas and the Dakotas rank lowest in the latter particular. It is interesting to note that while Oregon, Vermont, and Wyoming rank in the bottom interval in per capita income tax payments, they rank in the highest interval in library development. To the extent that the income tax data are a fair criterion of ability to support li-

TABLE 101\*  
FEDERAL INCOME TAX PAYMENTS PER CAPITA, 1934

State	Rank	Payments per Capita	Standard Score
Delaware.....	1	\$54.21	5.84
New York .. . . .	2	20.72	1.83
Nevada.....	3	19.07	1.64
Maryland.....	4	11.74	0.76
New Jersey .. . . .	5	10.23	0.58
California. . . . .	6	10.12	0.56
Connecticut.....	7	9.65	0.51
Massachusetts. . . .	8	9.32	0.47
Rhode Island.. . . .	9	8.91	0.42
Illinois.....	10	8.33	0.35
Pennsylvania. . . . .	11	6.90	0.18
Missouri.....	12	6.08	0.08
Michigan.....	13	5.82	0.05
Ohio.....	14	5.70	0.04
Colorado....	15	4.43	-0.12
Maine.....	16	4.30	-0.13
Minnesota.....	17	4.11	-0.15
North Carolina.. . .	18	4.08	-0.16
Virginia.....	19	3.63	-0.21
Mississippi.....	20	3.14	-0.27
New Hampshire.....	21	3.13	-0.27
Florida.....	22	3.02	-0.28
Texas.....	23	2.78	-0.31
Indiana.....	24	2.75	-0.32
Wisconsin.....	25	2.65	-0.33
Oklahoma....	26	2.47	-0.35
Washington....	27	2.29	-0.37
Louisiana.....	28	2.28	-0.37
West Virginia.....	29	2.07	-0.40
Tennessee.....	30	1.97	-0.41
Kentucky.....	30	1.97	-0.41
Nebraska.....	32	1.91	-0.42
Wyoming.....	33	1.87	-0.42
Oregon.....	34	1.82	-0.43
Utah.....	35	1.80	-0.43
Vermont.....	36	1.79	-0.43
Georgia.....	37	1.73	-0.44
Iowa.....	38	1.72	-0.44
Kansas.....	39	1.60	-0.45
Montana.....	40	1.27	-0.49
South Carolina.....	41	1.18	-0.51
Arizona.....	42	1.12	-0.51
Idaho.....	43	0.90	-0.54
Alabama.....	44	0.73	-0.56
New Mexico....	45	0.68	-0.56
South Dakota.....	46	0.50	-0.59
Arkansas .....	47	0.48	-0.59
North Dakota.....	48	0.43	-0.59

\* Source: U.S. Treas. Dept., *Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the Finances for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1934* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1935), p. 321.

Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$5.40; standard deviation, \$8.35.

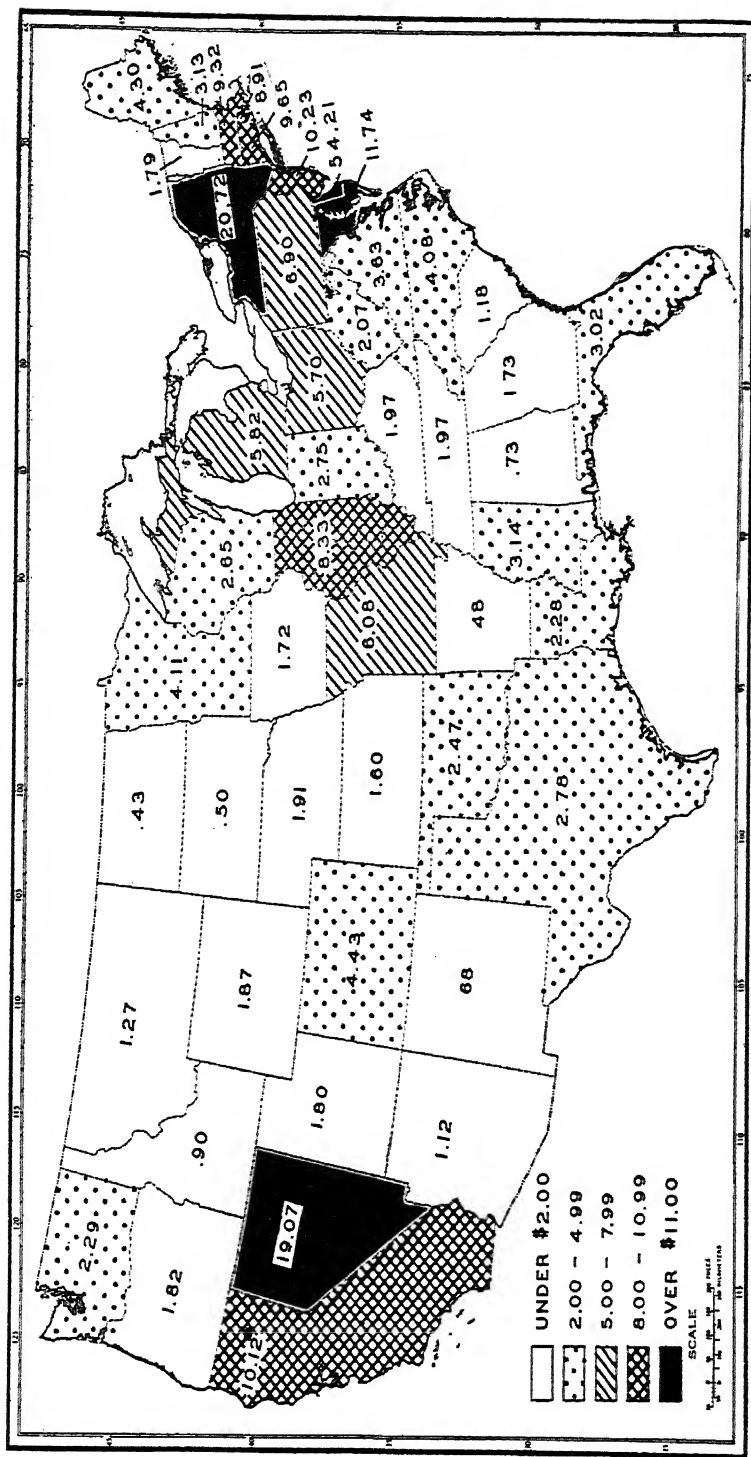


Fig. 140.—Federal income tax payments per capita, 1934. Source: Same as for Table 101. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

brary service, these three states appear to be exerting greater effort to support libraries than are any others. This suggestion is supported by the data presented concerning per capita library expenditure (Fig. 18), which show that the three states spend more on library service, in relation to their income, than do most of the others.

The chief point shown by a comparison of Table 101 and Figures 140 and 141 with Figures 50 and 51 is, perhaps, that the Northeast, though ranking below the Far West in library service, ranks significantly above it in per capita income tax payments. The amount per capita paid by the resident of Delaware

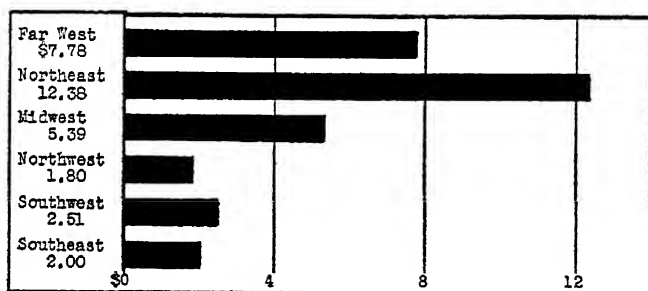


FIG. 141.—Regional summary of federal income tax payments per capita, 1934

(\$54.21) is 126 times the 43 cents paid by the resident of North Dakota; but the very high amount per capita in Delaware is clearly out of line with payments in general throughout the region.

Table 102 and Figures 142 and 143 require little comment. They show the per cent of population filing income tax returns in 1931. The range is from 4.97 in New York to 0.49 in Mississippi.

*Mean annual manufacturing wage.*—Mr. Wirth, in a study of newspaper and magazine circulation, makes the observation that a large population with a money income is a fundamental requisite to the support of newspapers and magazines. The amount of annual average wages paid in manufacturing should bear a similarly significant relation to library support. Table 103 supplements the data already given concerning income,

TABLE 102\*

PER CENT OF POPULATION FILING INCOME TAX RETURNS, 1931

State	Rank	Per Cent Filing Returns	Standard Score
New York . . . . .	1	4.97	2.46
Massachusetts . . . .	2	4.52	2.07
New Jersey . . . . .	3	4.35	1.92
California . . . . .	4	4.25	1.83
Connecticut . . . . .	5	4.02	1.63
Nevada . . . . .	6	3.73	1.38
Maryland . . . . .	7	3.70	1.36
Illinois . . . . .	8	3.51	1.19
Delaware . . . . .	9	3.45	1.14
Washington . . . . .	10	3.28	0.99
Rhode Island . . . . .	11	3.22	0.94
Wisconsin . . . . .	12	2.86	0.63
Pennsylvania . . . . .	13	2.76	0.54
New Hampshire . . . . .	14	2.67	0.47
Wyoming . . . . .	15	2.58	0.39
Ohio . . . . .	16	2.45	0.28
Michigan . . . . .	17	2.43	0.26
Colorado . . . . .	18	2.42	0.25
Missouri . . . . .	19	2.20	0.06
Vermont . . . . .	20	2.17	0.03
Oregon . . . . .	21	2.09	-0.03
Minnesota . . . . .	22	2.05	-0.07
Maine . . . . .	23	2.03	-0.09
Utah . . . . .	24	1.91	-0.19
Montana . . . . .	25	1.81	-0.28
Arizona . . . . .	25	1.81	-0.28
Nebraska . . . . .	27	1.73	-0.35
Florida . . . . .	28	1.68	-0.39
Indiana . . . . .	29	1.67	-0.40
Texas . . . . .	30	1.51	-0.54
Kansas . . . . .	31	1.46	-0.58
Virginia . . . . .	32	1.43	-0.60
Louisiana . . . . .	33	1.36	-0.67
Idaho . . . . .	34	1.31	-0.71
West Virginia . . . . .	35	1.27	-0.74
New Mexico . . . . .	36	1.26	-0.75
Iowa . . . . .	37	1.21	-0.80
Oklahoma . . . . .	38	1.17	-0.83
Tennessee . . . . .	39	1.07	-0.92
South Dakota . . . . .	40	1.06	-0.93
Kentucky . . . . .	41	1.03	-0.95
North Dakota . . . . .	41	1.03	-0.95
Georgia . . . . .	43	0.88	-1.08
Alabama . . . . .	44	0.73	-1.21
North Carolina . . . . .	45	0.70	-1.24
South Carolina . . . . .	46	0.60	-1.32
Arkansas . . . . .	47	0.53	-1.38
Mississippi . . . . .	48	0.49	-1.42

\* Source: U.S. Bur. For. and Dom. Comm., *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1934* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1934), pp. 174-75.

Mean per cent (based on per cents of the 48 states), 2.13; standard deviation, 1.15.



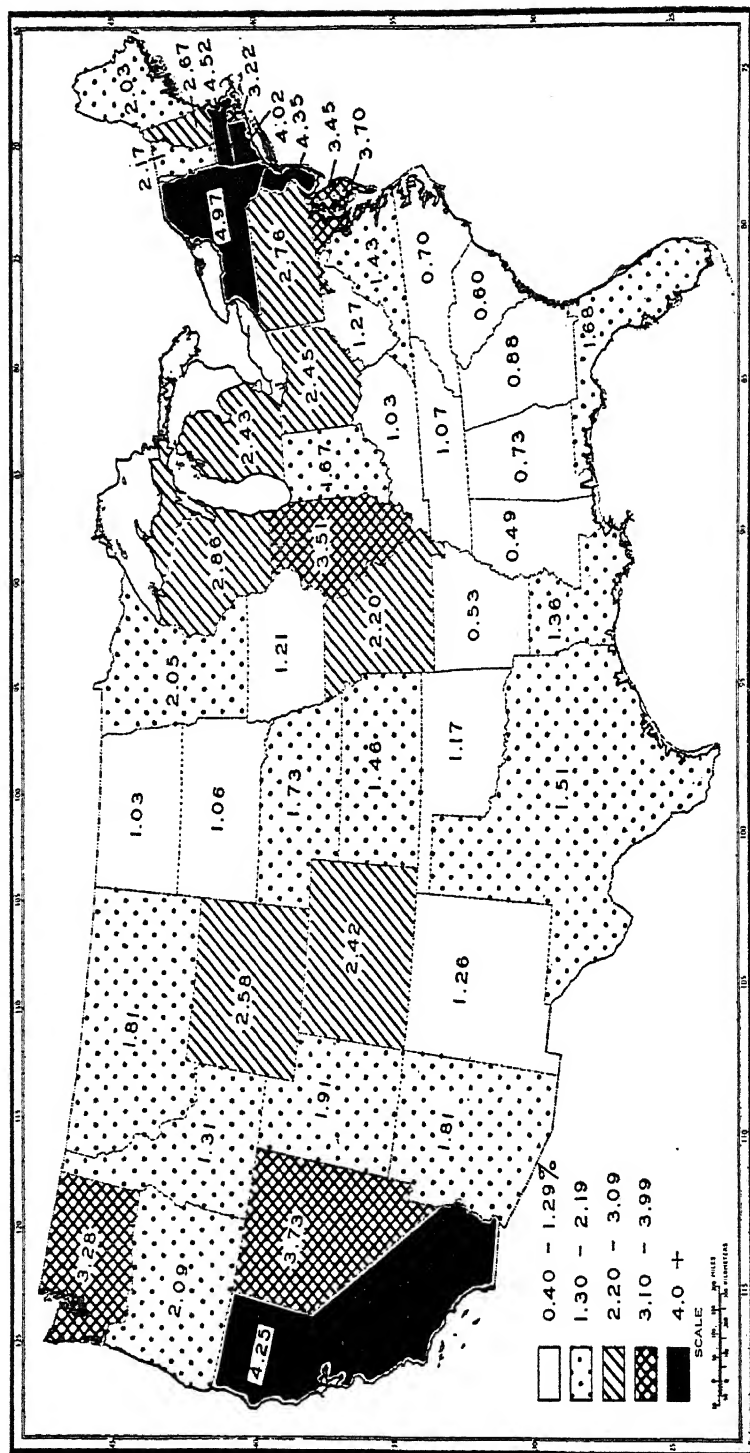


FIG. 142.—Per cent of population filing income tax returns, 1931. Source: Same as for Table 102. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

and shows the mean annual manufacturing wage received in each state in 1933. Perhaps a map showing the number of manufacturing wage earners in each state should be presented in conjunction with these data. However, Figure 148, showing the value added to raw materials by manufacturing, will serve to show the relative significance of a high or low manufacturing wage in a given state. Thus the high wage scale indicated in Nevada, Montana, Wyoming, and North Dakota is of little significance in relation to library development because of the



FIG. 143.—Regional summary of per cent of population filing income tax returns, 1931.

very small number of manufacturing wage earners in those states. Furthermore, as was also true of the other income maps, Figure 144 makes no allowance for spatial variation in cost of living, which, as shown by Mort, is much greater in New York and Illinois than in the states of the Southeast.<sup>9</sup> Figure 145 summarizes these data by regions. Clearly the manufacturing wage earners of the Southeast are less able than those of any other region both to buy their own reading materials and to contribute to the support of library service. Probably these data are fairly representative of wages in general in the six regions, since wage competition between the manufacturing industries, the construction industries, agriculture, mining, etc., tends to keep wages for all on a comparable plane.

<sup>9</sup> Mort, *op. cit.*, p. 105.

TABLE 103\*  
MEAN ANNUAL MANUFACTURING WAGE, 1933

State	Rank	Mean Wage	Standard Score
Wyoming.....	1	\$1,306	2 62
Nevada....	2	1,244	2 26
Montana....	3	1,067	1 25
North Dakota....	4	1,060	1 21
New York.....	5	1,029	1 03
California.....	6	1,000	0 87
Arizona.....	7	993	0 83
Michigan.....	8	988	0 80
Nebraska.....	9	968	0 69
Illinois.....	10	960	0 64
New Jersey.....	11	958	0 62
Kansas.....	12	955	0 61
South Dakota....	13	953	0 60
Colorado....	14	942	0 53
Ohio.....	15	930	0 46
Idaho.....	16	922	0 42
Oklahoma.....	16	922	0 42
Minnesota.....	18	919	0 40
Washington.....	19	917	0 40
Utah.....	20	910	0 35
Massachusetts....	21	889	0 23
West Virginia....	21	889	0 23
Delaware.....	23	881	0 18
Iowa.....	24	867	0 10
Indiana.....	25	865	0 09
Connecticut.....	26	860	0 06
Missouri.....	27	853	0 02
Oregon.....	28	847	-0 01
Pennsylvania.....	29	837	-0 07
Wisconsin.....	29	837	-0 07
Vermont.....	31	826	-0 13
Maryland.....	32	824	-0 14
Rhode Island.....	33	823	-0 15
Texas.....	34	804	-0 26
Kentucky.....	35	790	-0 34
New Hampshire....	36	787	-0 36
New Mexico.....	37	779	-0 40
Maine.....	38	771	-0 45
Virginia.....	39	700	-0 85
Louisiana.....	40	672	-1 01
Tennessee.....	41	641	-1 19
Alabama.....	42	570	-1 60
North Carolina....	43	567	-1 62
Florida.....	44	545	-1 74
Arkansas.....	45	541	-1 77
South Carolina....	46	525	-1 86
Georgia.....	47	524	-1 86
Mississippi.....	48	490	-2 06

\* Source U.S. Bur. Census, *Biennial Census of Manufactures: 1933* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1936), chap. II, Table 3, p. 20.  
Mean wage (based on means of the 48 states), \$549, standard deviation, \$174.



## ACCUMULATED WEALTH

*Per capita savings deposits and life insurance.*—A serious limitation of many indices of economic ability lies in their failure to distinguish between liquid and nonliquid wealth. Thus many indices of true wealth, as in the case of Iowa, for example, rank very high because of high land values. Real estate valuations are of importance in an area largely dependent upon taxation of such property for government income, but comparisons between states on a basis of data weighted heavily with this form of wealth are open to serious criticism as indices

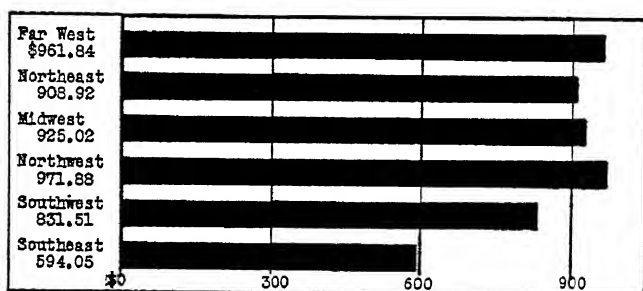


FIG. 145.—Regional summary of mean annual manufacturing wage, 1933

of relative ability to support social institutions and services. Income statistics are not influenced by this consideration and hence seem theoretically to be of considerable value as an index of the sort of economic ability which library support requires. Since tax-paying ability, which involves an estimate of the wealth that is significant from the point of view of support of government services, is discussed in a later section of this chapter, only two indices of relatively fluid accumulated wealth will be presented in this section. Tables 104 and 105 and Figures 146 and 147, presenting data concerning savings deposits and life insurance, indicate the tremendous concentration of these particular forms of fluid wealth in the Northeast. The range in the distribution of per capita savings is from \$610.59 in Massachusetts to \$19.72 in South Carolina, or 30 to 1. This high concentration has created economic and social problems

TABLE 104\*  
SAVINGS DEPOSITS PER CAPITA, 1933

State	Rank	Savings Deposits per Capita	Standard Score
Massachusetts .....	1	\$610.59	2.71
New York .....	2	582.79	2.55
Connecticut .....	3	536.94	2.27
Rhode Island .....	4	520.37	2.17
Vermont .....	5	506.60	2.09
New Hampshire .....	6	478.53	1.92
Maine .....	7	378.07	1.31
California .....	8	299.29	0.83
New Jersey .....	9	299.18	0.83
Maryland .....	10	285.81	0.75
Delaware .....	11	263.34	0.62
Pennsylvania .....	12	232.94	0.43
Nevada .....	13	182.40	0.13
Michigan .....	14	167.31	0.04
Minnesota .....	15	165.74	0.03
Ohio .....	16	153.12	-0.05
Wisconsin .....	17	142.80	-0.11
Washington .....	18	115.58	-0.27
Illinois .....	19	109.50	-0.31
Iowa .....	20	103.61	-0.35
Oregon .....	21	102.49	-0.35
Colorado .....	22	94.44	-0.40
Utah .....	23	93.84	-0.40
Montana .....	24	93.20	-0.41
Virginia .....	25	90.01	-0.43
Wyoming .....	26	88.69	-0.44
Missouri .....	27	87.94	-0.44
Indiana .....	28	79.46	-0.49
West Virginia .....	29	67.79	-0.56
Nebraska .....	30	65.34	-0.58
North Dakota .....	31	59.21	-0.61
South Dakota .....	32	58.10	-0.62
Louisiana .....	33	57.83	-0.62
Idaho .....	34	54.41	-0.64
Kentucky .....	35	54.10	-0.64
Florida .....	36	49.09	-0.67
Kansas .....	37	48.83	-0.68
Tennessee .....	38	48.39	-0.68
Arizona .....	39	45.76	-0.69
Georgia .....	40	39.91	-0.73
Oklahoma .....	41	36.83	-0.75
Texas .....	42	31.42	-0.78
Mississippi .....	43	28.67	-0.80
Alabama .....	44	27.41	-0.81
Arkansas .....	45	23.15	-0.83
New Mexico .....	46	22.84	-0.83
North Carolina .....	47	21.09	-0.84
South Carolina .....	48	19.72	-0.85

\* Source: "International Yearbook Number," *Editor and Publisher*, LXVI (January 27, Sec. 2, 1934), 203.

Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$160.93, standard deviation, \$165.74.

TABLE 105\*  
LIFE INSURANCE PER CAPITA, 1934

State	Rank	Life Insurance per Capita	Standard Score
Delaware. . . . .	1	\$1,476	2 73
New York. . . . .	1	1,476	2 73
Connecticut. . . . .	3	1,170	1 73
New Jersey. . . . .	4	1,107	1 52
Massachusetts. . . . .	5	1,063	1 38
Rhode Island. . . . .	6	1,044	1 32
Illinois. . . . .	7	1,022	1 24
Maryland. . . . .	8	997	1 16
Pennsylvania. . . . .	9	972	1.08
Ohio. . . . .	10	922	0 92
Missouri. . . . .	11	836	0 63
California. . . . .	12	828	0 61
New Hampshire. . . . .	13	784	0 46
Indiana. . . . .	14	728	0 28
Michigan. . . . .	15	715	0 24
Colorado. . . . .	16	714	0 23
Vermont. . . . .	17	711	0 22
Wisconsin. . . . .	18	709	0 22
Washington. . . . .	19	699	0 18
Maine. . . . .	20	691	0 16
Minnesota. . . . .	21	689	0 15
Nebraska. . . . .	22	686	0 14
Iowa. . . . .	23	656	0.04
Oregon. . . . .	24	643	0 00
Utah. . . . .	25	577	-0 22
Kansas. . . . .	26	537	-0 35
Virginia. . . . .	27	509	-0 44
Montana. . . . .	28	487	-0 51
Nevada. . . . .	29	482	-0 53
West Virginia. . . . .	30	454	-0 62
Texas. . . . .	31	453	-0 62
Wyoming. . . . .	32	439	-0.67
Tennessee. . . . .	32	439	-0.67
Kentucky. . . . .	34	434	-0.69
Florida. . . . .	35	421	-0.73
Oklahoma. . . . .	36	401	-0 79
Idaho. . . . .	37	400	-0 80
Louisiana. . . . .	38	397	-0 81
Georgia. . . . .	39	396	-0 81
South Dakota. . . . .	40	355	-0 94
North Carolina. . . . .	41	348	-0 97
South Carolina. . . . .	42	341	-0 99
North Dakota. . . . .	43	336	-1 01
Arizona. . . . .	44	321	-1.06
Alabama. . . . .	45	291	-1 15
Arkansas. . . . .	46	248	-1 30
New Mexico. . . . .	47	236	-1 33
Mississippi. . . . .	48	211	-1 41

\* Source: *The Insurance Yearbook, 1934-35: Life Insurance Volume* (Philadelphia: The Spectator, 1934), pp. 810-70.  
Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$643; standard deviation, \$304 91.

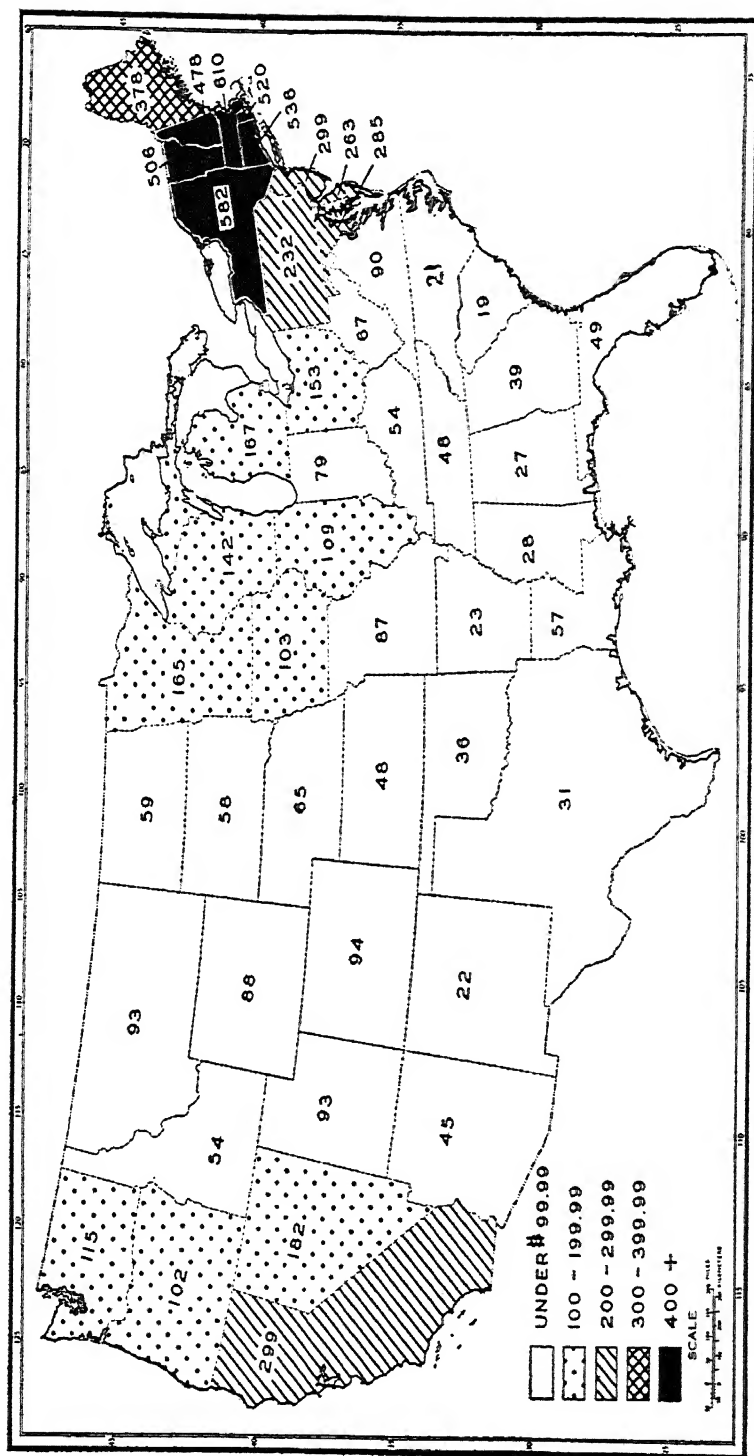


FIG. 146.—Savings deposits per capita, 1933. Source: Same as for Table 104. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)



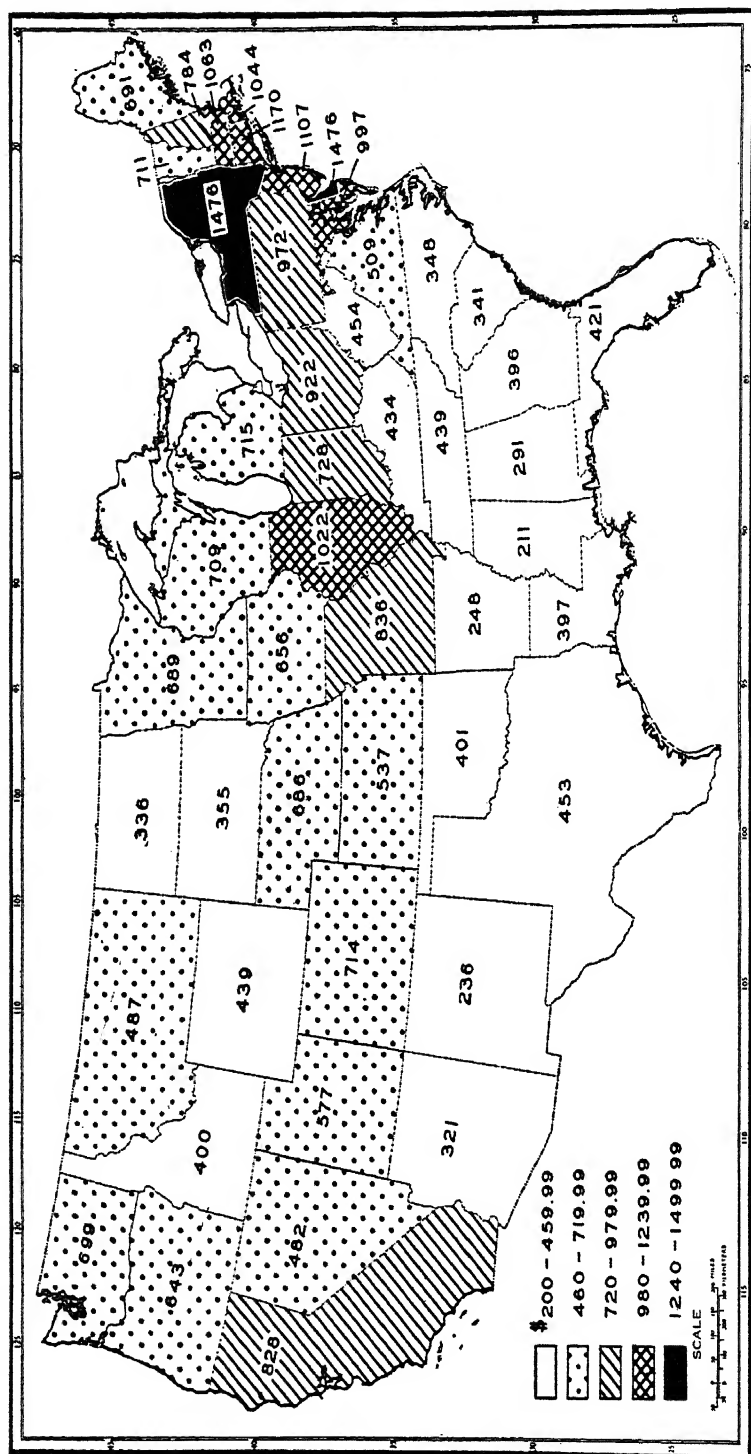


FIG. 147.—Life insurance per capita, 1934. Source: Same as for Table 105. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

TABLE 106\*  
VALUE PER CAPITA ADDED BY MANUFACTURE, 1930

STATE	RANK	VALUE ADDED		STANDARD SCORE
		Total (in Thousands)	Per Capita	
Connecticut .. .. .	1	\$ 806,214	\$501.72	2.26
Rhode Island .. .	2	324,078	471.39	2.04
New Jersey .. .	3	1,771,430	438.33	1.79
Ohio .. .	4	2,889,804	434.77	1.76
Michigan .. .	5	2,067,344	426.93	1.71
Massachusetts .. .	6	1,710,729	402.56	1.52
New York .. .	7	4,973,920	395.13	1.47
Illinois .. .	8	2,930,038	383.98	1.39
Pennsylvania .. .	9	3,430,606	356.19	1.18
Indiana .. .	10	1,136,463	350.92	1.14
Wisconsin .. .	11	949,842	323.18	0.93
New Hampshire .. .	12	147,132	316.21	0.88
Delaware .. .	13	69,151	290.09	0.69
Maryland .. .	14	422,097	258.71	0.45
California .. .	15	1,349,191	237.65	0.30
Washington .. .	16	367,149	234.84	0.28
Maine .. .	17	174,385	218.69	0.16
North Carolina .. .	18	693,013	218.60	0.16
Oregon .. .	19	206,542	216.55	0.15
Vermont .. .	20	77,260	214.84	0.13
Missouri .. .	21	777,497	214.22	0.12
Minnesota .. .	22	404,995	157.96	-0.30
Virginia .. .	23	380,086	156.94	-0.30
Wyoming .. .	24	33,628	149.08	-0.36
West Virginia .. .	25	251,615	145.51	-0.39
Iowa .. .	26	323,820	131.05	-0.50
Tennessee .. .	27	322,898	123.41	-0.55
Colorado .. .	28	122,331	118.10	-0.59
Louisiana .. .	29	246,497	117.29	-0.60
Montana .. .	30	61,249	113.93	-0.62
Utah .. .	31	56,727	111.70	-0.64
Kansas .. .	32	205,367	109.18	-0.66
Georgia .. .	33	294,649	101.31	-0.72
Idaho .. .	34	44,489	99.97	-0.73
Alabama .. .	35	258,125	97.54	-0.75
Florida .. .	36	135,488	92.28	-0.78
South Carolina .. .	37	159,351	91.65	-0.79
Kentucky .. .	38	236,080	90.29	-0.80
Nevada .. .	39	8,065	88.57	-0.81
Nebraska .. .	40	119,994	87.08	-0.82
Texas .. .	41	460,307	79.03	-0.88
Arizona .. .	42	32,289	74.13	-0.92
Oklahoma .. .	43	149,404	62.35	-1.01
Mississippi .. .	44	107,325	53.40	-1.07
Arkansas .. .	45	94,255	50.83	-1.09
South Dakota .. .	46	22,681	32.74	-1.23
New Mexico .. .	47	11,278	26.64	-1.27
North Dakota .. .	48	15,637	22.97	-1.30

\* Source: *U.S. Census: 1930, Manufactures: 1929*, III, Table 4, p. 17.  
Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$197.72; standard deviation, \$134.35; U.S. total, \$31,832,515,000.

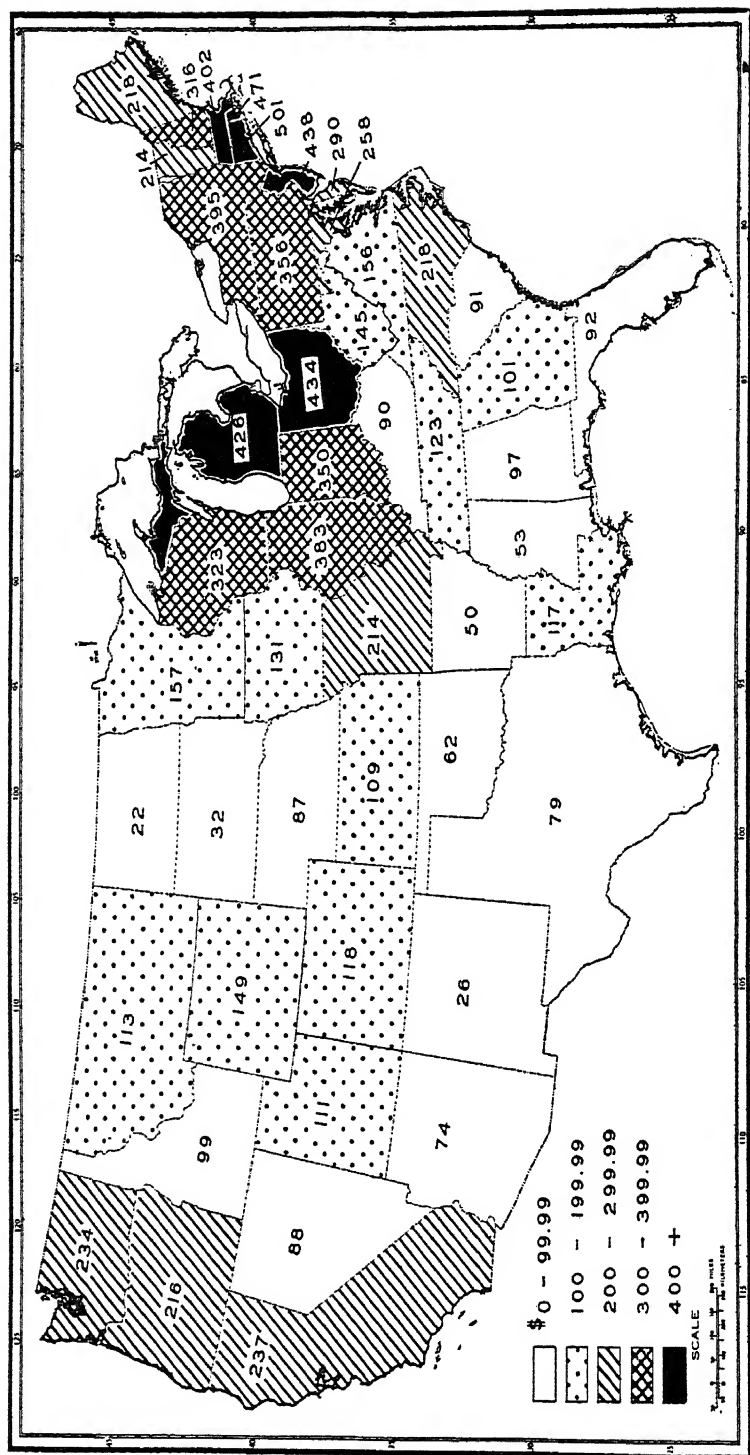


FIG. 148.—Value per capita added by manufacture, 1930. Source: Same as for Table 106. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

of which the implications are by no means limited to library development. Like the operation of the protective tariff, which for more than a century has frequently benefitted industry at the expense of agriculture, it has complicated the adequate support of social institutions and services in other regions.

#### WEALTH ADDED BY MANUFACTURE AND AGRICULTURE

*Value added by manufacture.*—The creation of wealth depends to a great extent upon manufacture and agriculture, although a few states rely in large measure upon mining for their production of wealth. Wide variation is exhibited in ability to in-

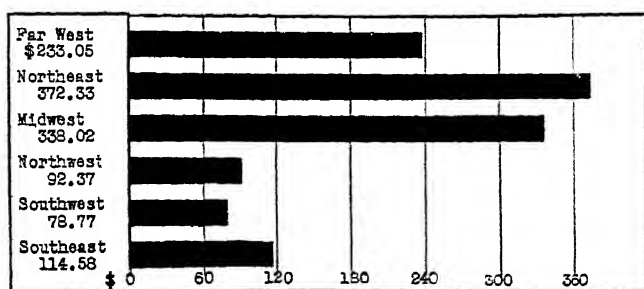


FIG. 149.—Regional summary of value per capita added by manufacture, 1930

crease wealth by these means. Table 106 shows the value added per capita by manufacturing in 1930. Manufacturing is heavily concentrated in the Northeast, in parts of the Midwest, and to a less extent in the Far West, as well as in North Carolina in the Southeast. These areas of concentration are associated with denseness of population, large numbers of wage earners, and relative liquidity of wealth. If the data are compared with those relating to mean manufacturing wages (Table 103 and Figs. 144 and 145), it will be seen that in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and North Carolina, states in which manufacturing is of considerable importance as a source of income, the mean annual manufacturing wages are \$889 (Massachusetts), \$860 (Connecticut), \$823 (Rhode Island), \$567 (North Carolina). The values added by manufacture, however, are \$501.72 (Connecticut), \$471.39 (Rhode Island), \$402.56 (Massachu-

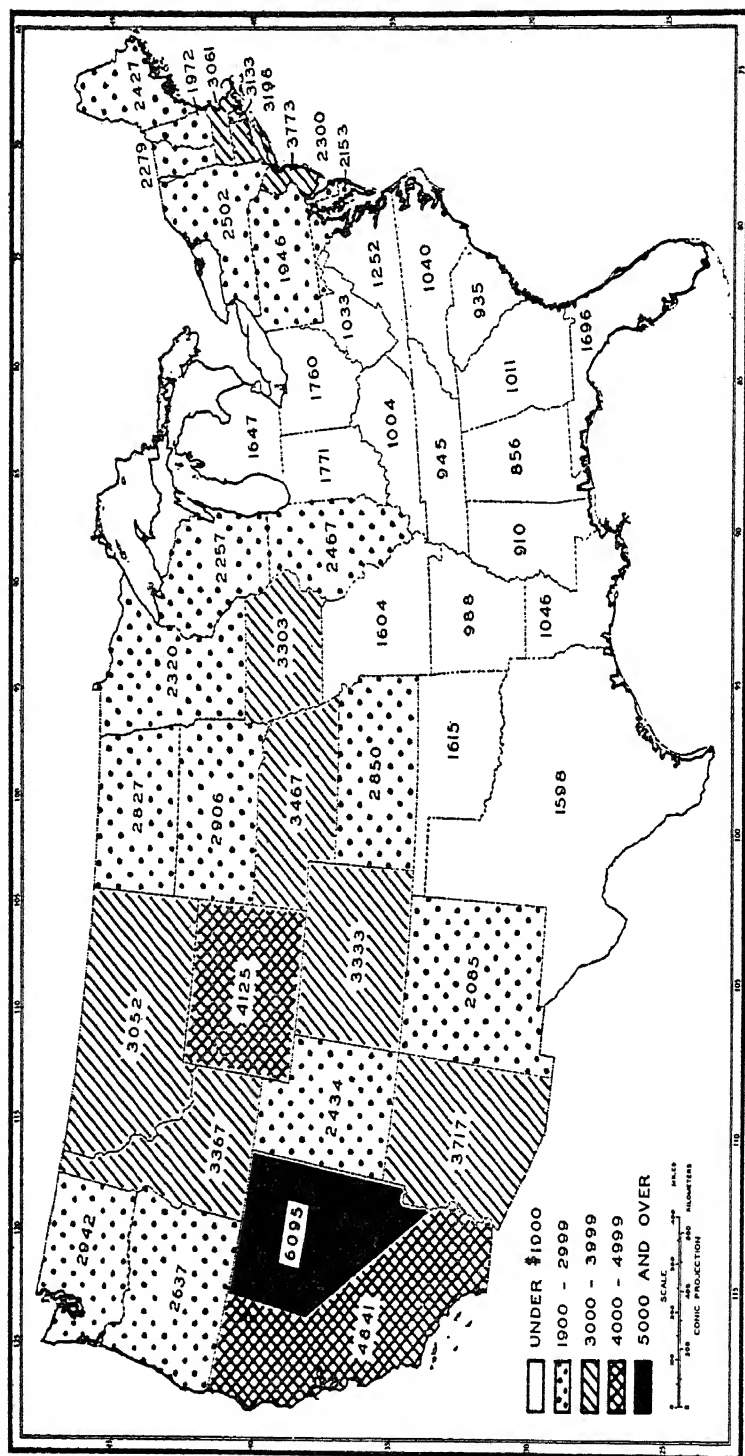


FIG. 150.—Mean value per farm of farm products, 1929. Source: Same as for Table 107. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

setts), and \$218.60 (North Carolina). On the basis of these data, it seems clear that the differences in wages and value added through manufacture might account in some measure for the differences in library development in the three northeastern states, and the one state in the Southeast.

*Value of farm products.*—Figures 150 and 151 may be considered to present a rough index of the relative ability of the farm populations of the various regions and states to support rural library service. The data, however, should also be considered in relation to density of farm population, topography,

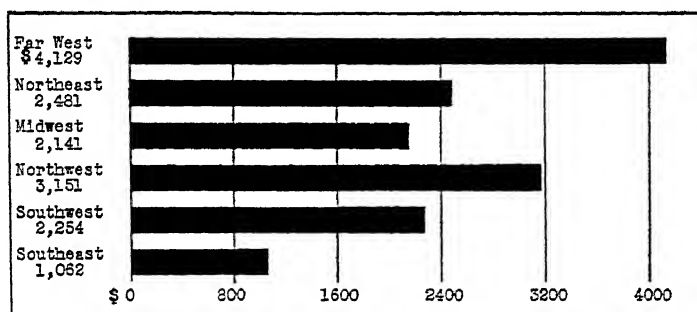


FIG. 151.—Regional summary of mean value per farm of farm products, 1929

etc. In the Southeast, for example, if those two factors alone were considered, the comparatively high concentration of rural population and the relative ease with which land can be cultivated would be expected to facilitate the support of library service; however, the advantage which should be derived from these conditions is offset by the low value of farm products. If the data presented in Figure 7 (Per cent of rural population of each state residing in local public library districts, 1934) are considered as indicative of development of rural library service, relatively little correspondence will seem to be found between rural library service and ability of the farm population to support such service. This is indicated by the data of Figures 150 and 151. Nevada, California, Wyoming, and New Jersey, however, rank high on both counts, while the Southeast ranks low. Most of the sparsely settled states of the mountain

TABLE 107\*  
MEAN VALUE PER FARM OF FARM PRODUCTS, 1929

State	Rank	Mean Value	Standard Score
Nevada.....	1	\$6,095	3.39
California....	2	4,841	2.26
Wyoming.....	3	4,125	1.61
New Jersey . . .	4	3,773	1.29
Arizona. . . . .	5	3,717	1.24
Nebraska . . . . .	6	3,467	1.02
Idaho. . . . .	7	3,367	0.93
Colorado . . . . .	8	3,333	0.89
Iowa.....	9	3,303	0.87
Connecticut. . . .	10	3,196	0.77
Rhode Island. . . .	11	3,133	0.71
Massachusetts . . . .	12	3,061	0.65
Montana . . . . .	13	3,052	0.64
Washington. . . . .	14	2,942	0.54
South Dakota. . . .	15	2,906	0.51
Kansas.....	16	2,850	0.46
North Dakota . . . .	17	2,827	0.44
Oregon.....	18	2,637	0.27
New York . . . . .	19	2,502	0.14
Illinois . . . . .	20	2,467	0.11
Utah. . . . .	21	2,434	0.08
Maine. . . . .	22	2,427	0.08
Minnesota . . . . .	23	2,320	-0.02
Delaware . . . . .	24	2,300	-0.04
Vermont....	25	2,279	-0.06
Wisconsin. . . . .	26	2,257	-0.08
Maryland....	27	2,153	-0.17
New Mexico....	28	2,085	-0.23
New Hampshire. . . . .	29	1,972	-0.34
Pennsylvania. . . . .	30	1,946	-0.36
Indiana . . . . .	31	1,771	-0.52
Ohio.....	32	1,760	-0.53
Florida. . . . .	33	1,696	-0.58
Michigan . . . . .	34	1,647	-0.63
Oklahoma....	35	1,615	-0.66
Missouri.....	36	1,604	-0.67
Texas.....	37	1,598	-0.67
Virginia. . . . .	38	1,252	-0.99
Louisiana....	39	1,046	-1.17
North Carolina . . . .	40	1,040	-1.18
West Virginia . . . .	41	1,033	-1.18
Georgia.....	42	1,011	-1.20
Kentucky....	43	1,004	-1.21
Arkansas.....	44	988	-1.22
Tennessee.....	45	945	-1.26
South Carolina . . . .	46	935	-1.27
Mississippi....	47	910	-1.29
Alabama . . . . .	48	856	-1.34

\* Source: *U. S. Census, 1930, Agriculture, IV*, Table 8, pp. 916-29.  
Mean value (based on means of the 48 states), \$2,343; standard deviation, \$1,107; U.S. value per farm of farm products (including District of Columbia), \$2,409.

TABLE 108\*  
FARMS OPERATED BY TENANTS, 1930

STATE	RANK	FARMS OPERATED BY TENANTS		STANDARD SCORE
		Farms	Per Cent	
Mississippi . . . . .	1	225,617	72.2	2.12
Georgia . . . . .	2	174,390	68.2	1.91
Louisiana . . . . .	3	107,551	66.6	1.83
South Carolina . . . . .	4	102,768	65.1	1.75
Alabama . . . . .	5	166,420	64.7	1.73
Arkansas . . . . .	6	152,691	63.0	1.64
Oklahoma . . . . .	7	125,329	61.5	1.56
Texas . . . . .	8	301,660	60.9	1.53
North Carolina . . . . .	9	137,615	49.2	0.92
Iowa . . . . .	10	101,615	47.3	0.82
Nebraska . . . . .	11	61,020	47.1	0.81
Tennessee . . . . .	12	113,520	46.2	0.76
South Dakota . . . . .	13	37,094	44.6	0.68
Illinois . . . . .	14	92,482	43.1	0.60
Kansas . . . . .	15	70,326	42.4	0.57
Kentucky . . . . .	16	88,421	35.9	0.23
North Dakota . . . . .	17	27,400	35.1	0.19
Missouri . . . . .	18	89,076	34.8	0.17
Colorado . . . . .	19	20,692	34.5	0.15
Delaware . . . . .	20	3,282	33.8	0.12
Minnesota . . . . .	21	57,638	31.1	-0.02
Indiana . . . . .	22	54,575	30.1	-0.08
Florida . . . . .	23	16,737	28.4	-0.16
Virginia . . . . .	24	47,970	28.1	-0.18
Maryland . . . . .	25	11,441	26.5	-0.26
Ohio . . . . .	26	57,604	26.3	-0.27
Idaho . . . . .	27	10,559	25.3	-0.33
Montana . . . . .	28	11,628	24.5	-0.37
Wyoming . . . . .	29	3,520	22.0	-0.50
New Mexico . . . . .	30	6,330	20.2	-0.59
West Virginia . . . . .	31	15,347	18.6	-0.68
Wisconsin . . . . .	32	33,121	18.2	-0.70
California . . . . .	33	24,402	18.0	-0.71
Oregon . . . . .	34	9,790	17.8	-0.72
Washington . . . . .	35	12,078	17.0	-0.76
Arizona . . . . .	36	2,331	16.4	-0.79
Pennsylvania . . . . .	37	27,394	15.9	-0.82
New Jersey . . . . .	38	3,948	15.6	-0.83
Michigan . . . . .	39	26,195	15.5	-0.84
New York . . . . .	40	21,113	13.2	-0.96
Nevada . . . . .	41	445	12.9	-0.97
Rhode Island . . . . .	42	415	12.5	-0.99
Utah . . . . .	43	3,321	12.2	-1.01
Vermont . . . . .	44	2,409	9.7	-1.14
Connecticut . . . . .	45	1,068	6.2	-1.32
Massachusetts . . . . .	46	1,442	5.6	-1.35
New Hampshire . . . . .	47	796	5.3	-1.37
Maine . . . . .	48	1,755	4.5	-1.41

\* Source: U.S. Bur. For. and Dom. Comm., *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1935* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1935), p. 568.

Mean per cent (based on per cents of the 48 states), 31.54; standard deviation, 19.16, U.S. total, 2,664,365.



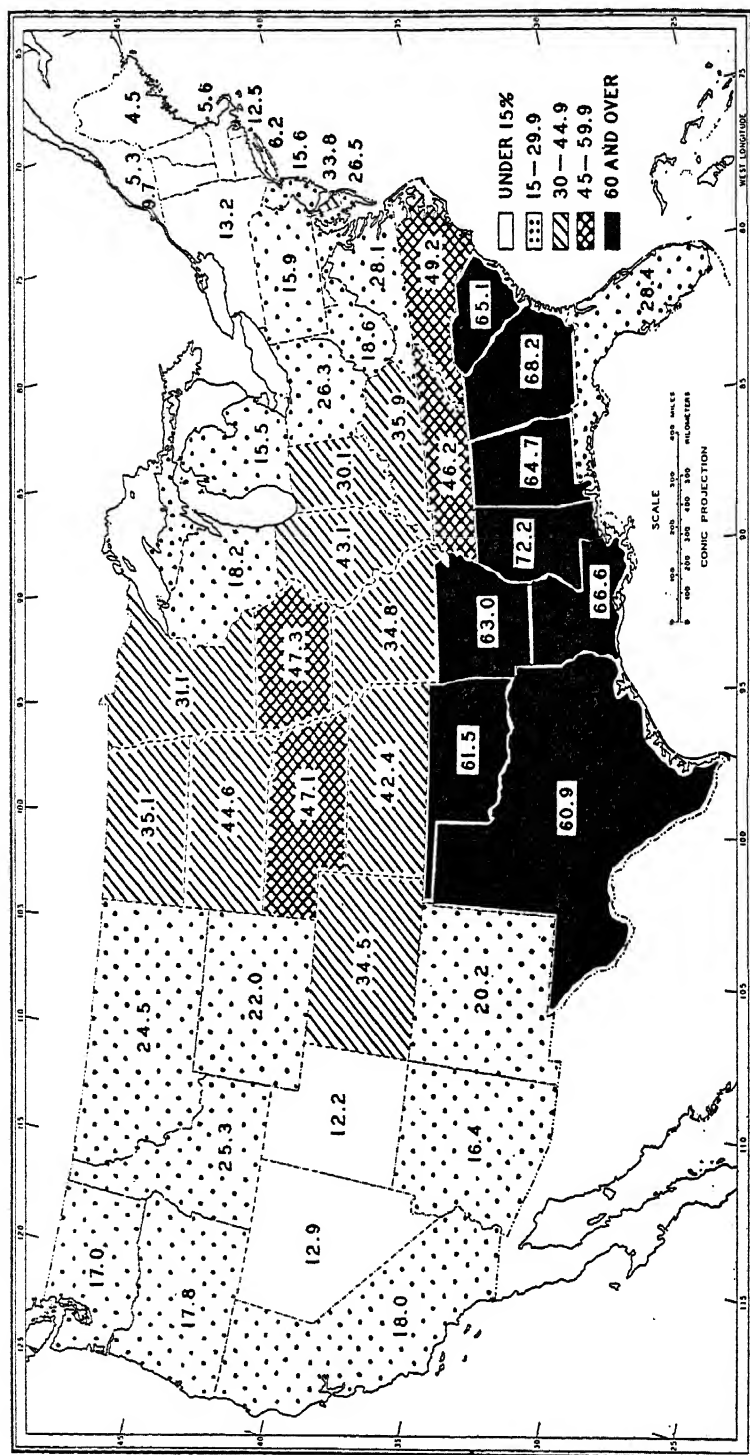


FIG. 152.—Farms operated by tenants, 1930. Source: Same as for Table 108. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

and great plains regions rank lower with respect to per cent of rural population served than with respect to value per farm of farm products. Undoubtedly the factors of topography and density of farm population have operated to hamper rural library development. In a state like Iowa, however, failure to develop rural library service must be attributed to causes other than rural wealth as indicated by the value of farm products. It should be pointed out again, moreover, that conclusions based on indices of library service for entire states are less

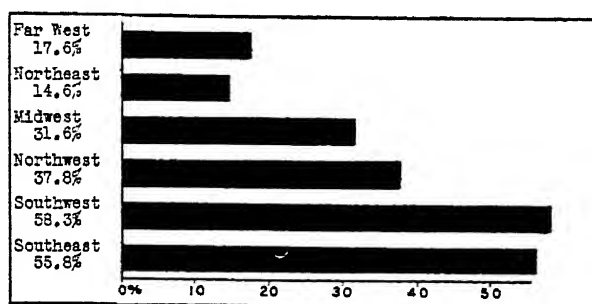


FIG. 153.—Regional summary of farms operated by tenants, 1930

reliable than is desired, and that for a more exact understanding of the variations indicated smaller units might well be studied.

*Farm tenancy.*—The problem of farm income is further complicated by the blight of farm tenancy. The farm tenant, or share cropper, particularly in the Southeast and Southwest, where 55.8 and 58.3 per cent, respectively, of the farms are cultivated by one or the other, is one of the most tragic figures in American life. Even before the depression the problem of providing permanent social institutions for the tenant perplexed students of rural life. His standard of living has been the lowest of that of any comparable group in the nation, while the median size of his family and his illiteracy rate have been among the highest. This situation accounts in some measure for the fact reported by Edwards that whereas farm children constitute 31 per cent of the nation's children of school age, farm income

TABLE 109\*  
RETAIL SALES PER CAPITA, 1932

State	Rank	Sales per Capita	Standard Score
California. ....	1	\$575.73	1.87
New York. ....	2	575.12	1.86
Nevada. ....	3	550.06	1.62
Washington. ....	4	495.29	1.09
Massachusetts. ....	5	484.49	0.99
Illinois. ....	6	483.23	0.98
Oregon. ....	7	482.50	0.97
Colorado. ....	8	480.65	0.95
Connecticut. ....	9	475.80	0.91
Michigan. ....	10	461.67	0.77
Rhode Island. ....	11	460.47	0.76
Ohio. ....	12	459.89	0.75
New Jersey. ....	13	458.12	0.73
Wyoming. ....	14	449.53	0.65
Montana. ....	15	446.58	0.62
Arizona. ....	16	441.76	0.58
Nebraska. ....	17	435.16	0.51
Kansas. ....	18	424.56	0.41
Vermont. ....	19	422.89	0.39
Pennsylvania. ....	20	419.42	0.36
Wisconsin. ....	21	419.30	0.36
Minnesota. ....	22	418.02	0.35
Delaware. ....	23	416.11	0.33
Missouri. ....	24	410.58	0.28
Iowa. ....	25	395.05	0.13
Utah. ....	26	393.90	0.12
New Hampshire. ....	27	390.08	0.08
Maine. ....	28	388.67	0.07
Idaho. ....	29	380.81	-0.01
Indiana. ....	30	379.59	-0.02
South Dakota. ....	31	378.36	-0.03
Maryland. ....	32	376.22	-0.05
Texas. ....	33	356.10	-0.25
North Dakota. ....	34	341.94	-0.38
Florida. ....	35	338.92	-0.41
Oklahoma. ....	36	331.33	-0.49
New Mexico. ....	37	285.50	-0.93
West Virginia. ....	38	255.68	-1.22
Tennessee. ....	39	248.36	-1.29
Virginia. ....	40	246.42	-1.30
North Carolina. ....	41	234.72	-1.42
Kentucky. ....	42	226.43	-1.50
Louisiana. ....	43	223.65	-1.52
Arkansas. ....	44	221.89	-1.54
Georgia. ....	45	212.32	-1.63
Mississippi. ....	46	205.92	-1.69
Alabama. ....	47	198.19	-1.77
South Carolina. ....	48	171.98	-2.02

\* Source: U.S. Bur. For. and Dom. Comm., *Commerce Yearbook*, 1932, I (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1932), Table 18, p. 23.

Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$381.85, standard deviation, \$103.81.

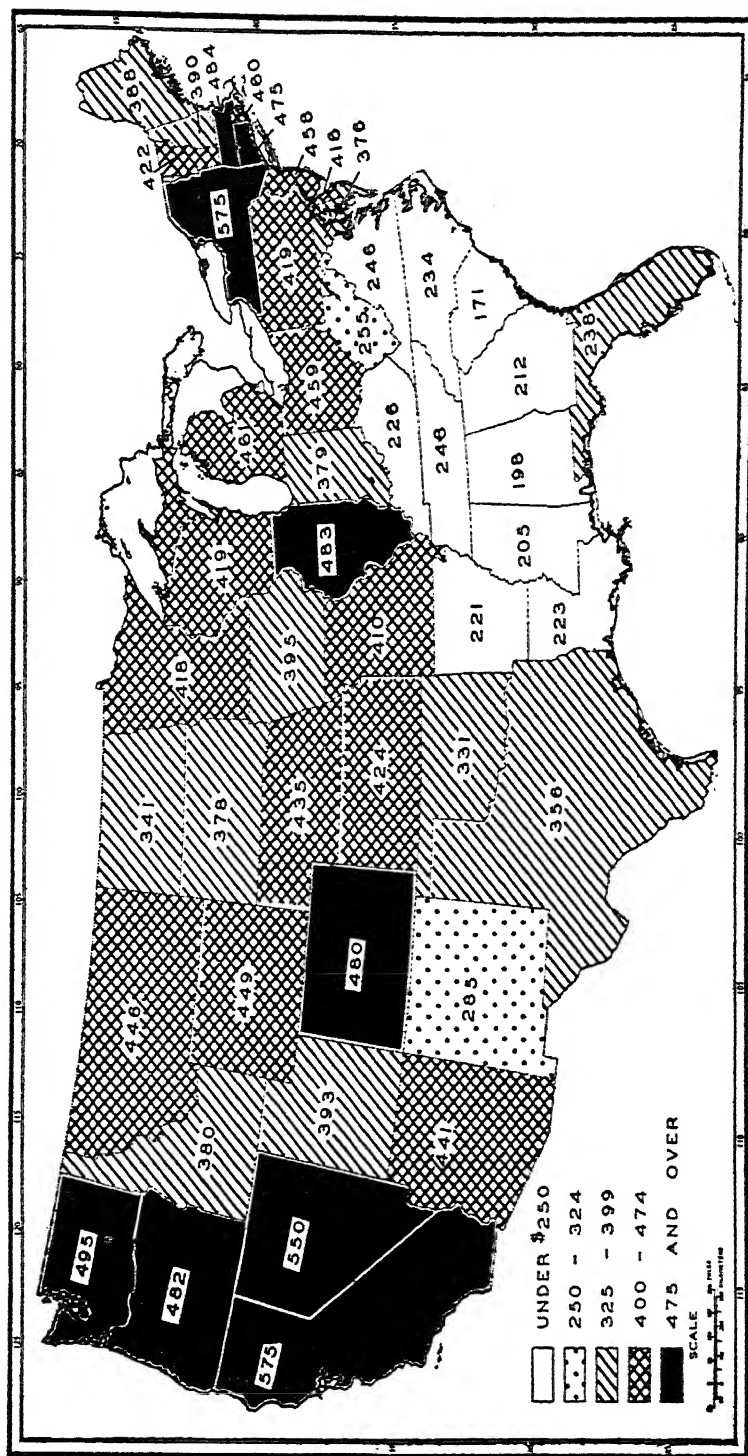


FIG. 154.—Retail sales per capita, 1932. Source: Same as for Table 109. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

is only 9 per cent of the total national income.<sup>10</sup> Table 108 and Figures 152 and 153 show the distribution of farms cultivated by tenants or share croppers in 1930.

#### CONSUMPTION OF GOODS AND SERVICES

*Retail sales per capita.*—Consumption of retail merchandise, particularly of the luxury types, has been found to furnish useful indices of economic ability. Various data indicative of wealth in this sense have been presented in other chapters of this study. Examples are: radios, automobiles, telephones, roads, books, and magazines. Figure 154 summarizes statistics

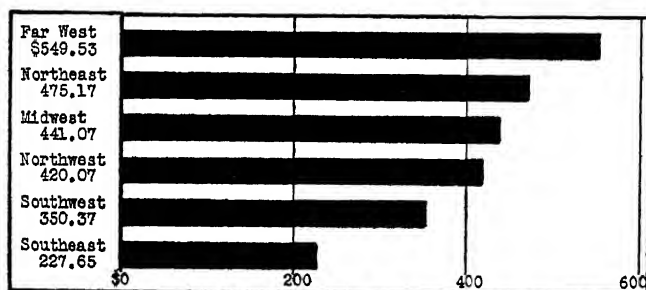


FIG. 155.—Regional summary of retail sales per capita, 1932

adjusted to the total population for total retail sales in each state in 1932. The exclusion of necessities, such as food, would probably increase the validity of these data as an index of ability to support library service. In any case, a variation of from \$171 per capita in South Carolina to \$575 in California and New York offers convincing evidence of wide variation in economic ability. Each resident of California spent three and one-third times as much for retail merchandise in the year represented as did each resident of South Carolina. Inasmuch as the \$171 spent by the resident of South Carolina provided little more than mere subsistence, and the \$575 spent by the Californian probably permitted the purchase of goods and serv-

<sup>10</sup> Newton Edwards, in U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on Education and Labor, *Hearings before the Committee on Education and Labor*, S. 419. 75th Cong., 1st Sess. (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1937), p. 51.

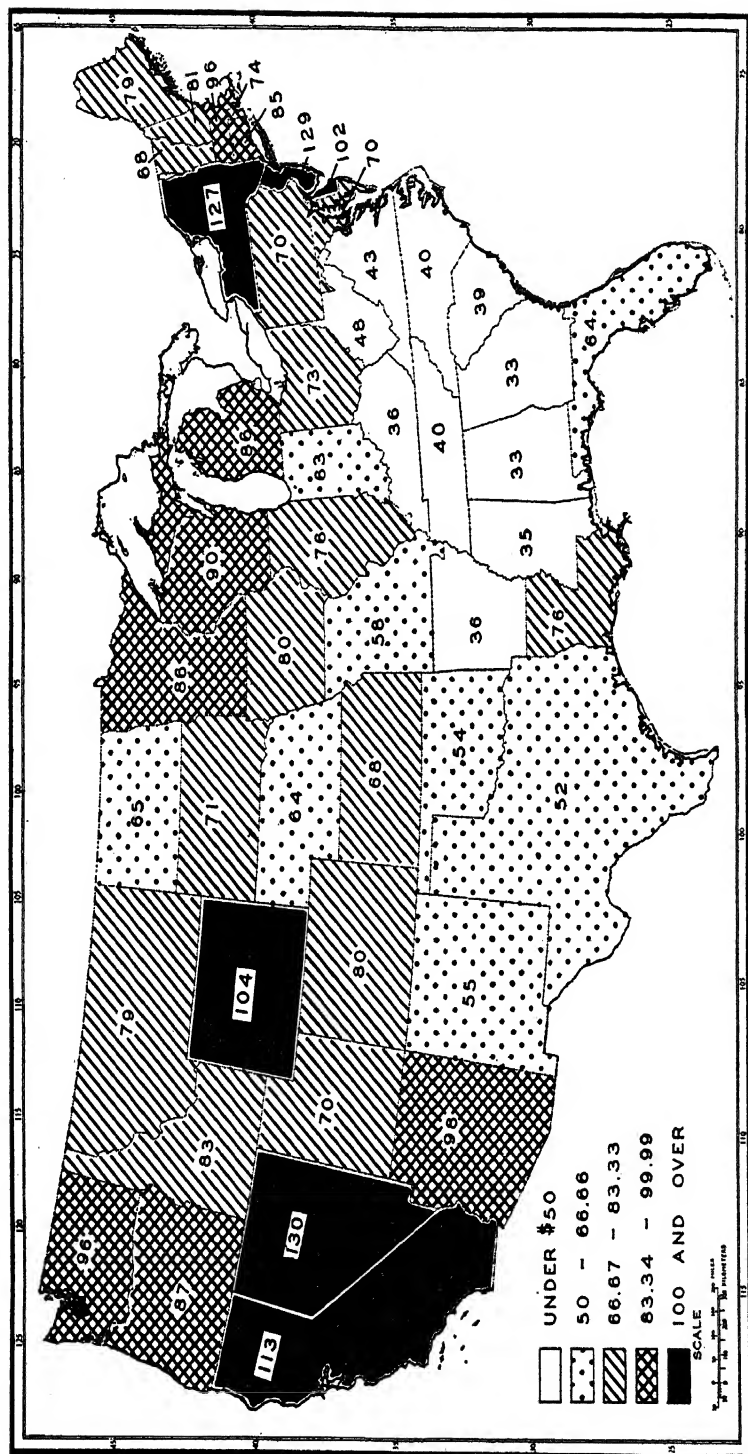


FIG. 156.—Cost of government per capita, 1932. Source: Same as for Table 110. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

ices above a subsistence level, it is not surprising that the Californian spent nearly eight times as much for library service as did the South Carolinian.

In general, retail sales bear a close relationship to per capita income. In the maps presented in this study which deal with per capita income (Fig. 137) and retail sales (Fig. 154), twenty-six states are in the same interval, while only three states vary more than one interval. As usual, the greatest degree of consistency is found in the Southeast, where ten states are in the lowest interval on both maps. There is little doubt that in these ten states library service is most difficult to provide, and in large measure this may be attributed to lack of economic ability.

*Cost of government.*—The expenditure which a people makes for government may be considered as expenditure for service. Figure 156 shows the per capita expenditure in 1932 by the people of each state for all governmental purposes. These data no doubt also include other factors beside that of economic ability. In general, the data probably represent a combination of ability and willingness to support social and political institutions and services. Those states which are willing and able to give relatively generous support to government would be expected to support libraries equally well; and a comparison of Figure 156 with the map of library expenditure (Fig. 18) bears out such a supposition to a considerable extent. Only six states vary as much as two intervals. Their standard scores, as shown in Table III, more accurately reveal their relative status. In the first four states, particularly in Arizona, library support fails by a wide margin to keep pace with general governmental expenditures. In Ohio and New Hampshire more money is spent, proportionally, on libraries than on government in general. The maps exhibiting cost of government and library expenditure reveal no significant variations in the relative status of the other forty-two states.

TABLE 110\*  
COST OF GOVERNMENT PER CAPITA, 1932

State	Rank	Cost per Capita	Standard Score
Nevada...	1	\$130.99	2.32
New Jersey . . .	2	129.27	2.25
New York. . . .	3	127.96	2.20
California. . . .	4	113.78	1.63
Wyoming	5	104.97	1.27
Delaware.	6	102.98	1.20
Arizona . . .	7	98.50	1.02
Massachusetts . .	8	96.32	0.93
Washington . . .	9	96.23	0.93
Wisconsin . . .	10	90.74	0.71
Oregon . . .	11	87.66	0.58
Michigan . . .	12	86.86	0.55
Minnesota	13	86.36	0.53
Connecticut . . .	14	85.21	0.48
Idaho... . . .	15	83.00	0.40
New Hampshire . .	16	81.38	0.33
Colorado . . .	17	80.85	0.31
Iowa ... . . .	18	80.77	0.31
Maine... . . .	19	79.66	0.26
Montana. . . .	20	79.47	0.25
Illinois... . . .	21	76.46	0.13
Louisiana. . . .	22	76.34	0.13
Rhode Island	23	74.58	0.06
Ohio... . . .	24	73.44	0.01
South Dakota . .	25	71.94	-0.05
Utah . . .	26	70.89	-0.09
Maryland... . .	27	70.83	-0.09
Pennsylvania.	28	70.13	-0.12
Kansas....	29	68.47	-0.19
Vermont ... . .	30	68.12	-0.20
North Dakota . .	31	65.45	-0.31
Nebraska . . .	32	64.80	-0.33
Florida . . . .	33	64.58	-0.34
Indiana....	34	63.92	-0.37
Missouri . . . .	35	58.40	-0.59
New Mexico . . . .	36	55.14	-0.72
Oklahoma.	37	54.10	-0.76
Texas....	38	52.35	-0.83
West Virginia . . . .	39	48.47	-0.99
Virginia. . . . .	40	43.86	-1.17
Tennessee...	41	40.33	-1.31
North Carolina... .	42	40.07	-1.32
South Carolina . . .	43	39.47	-1.35
Arkansas...	44	36.65	-1.46
Kentucky... . .	45	36.09	-1.48
Mississippi... . .	46	35.47	-1.51
Alabama . . . . .	47	33.67	-1.58
Georgia... . . . .	48	33.62	-1.58

\* Source U.S. Bur Census, *Financial Statistics of State and Local Governments, 1932* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1935), pp 28-39.

Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$73.14; standard deviation, \$24.95.



*Postal receipts per capita.*—Postal receipts per capita may be thought of as falling within the category of expenditures for services and constitute another index by which economic ability is frequently measured. The data given on this subject in Table 112 and Figures 157 and 158 merely add to the information already presented with respect to the relative abilities of the six regions. If, however, they were combined with data concerning the number of pieces of mail received per capita in the various

TABLE 111\*  
SIX STATES COMPARED WITH RESPECT TO LIBRARY  
EXPENDITURE AND TO COST OF GOVERNMENT

STATE	STANDARD SCORE	
	Library Expenditure	Cost of Government
Nevada.. .. .	0.35	2 32
Arizona.. .. .	-0 99	1 02
Louisiana . . . . .	-1 04	0 13
Delaware.....	0.52	1 20
Ohio.....	1.58	0 01
New Hampshire.....	1.24	0 33

\* Source: Tables 19 and 110.

regions, the variance between different areas in amounts of reading materials received in this manner would be sharply emphasized.

*Expenditures for services of physicians, dentists, and nurses.*—What a community pays for the professional services of doctors, dentists, and nurses, and its expenditure for hospital service and for protection from preventable diseases are not usually thought of as in the category of retail sales. Nevertheless, the attempt to cope with its health problems may be considered as a measure of a community's ability and willingness to provide for this fundamental of modern life. Expenditures for these services are made as for the necessities of life. The question may then well be asked: How much do states vary in the amount spent for health service?

TABLE 112\*  
POSTAL RECEIPTS PER CAPITA, 1932

STATE	RANK	RECEIPTS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total (in Thousands)	Per Capita	
New York . . . . .	1	\$104,267	\$8.28	2.77
Illinois . . . . .	2	59,852	7.84	2.49
Missouri . . . . .	3	22,781	6.28	1.50
Massachusetts . . . . .	4	25,543	6.01	1.33
California . . . . .	5	33,050	5.82	1.21
Connecticut . . . . .	6	9,313	5.80	1.20
Nevada . . . . .	7	517	5.68	1.12
Minnesota . . . . .	8	14,481	5.65	1.10
Colorado . . . . .	9	5,655	5.46	0.98
Ohio . . . . .	10	33,963	5.11	0.76
Oregon . . . . .	11	4,561	4.78	0.55
Washington . . . . .	12	7,262	4.65	0.47
Delaware . . . . .	13	1,092	4.58	0.42
Nebraska . . . . .	14	6,206	4.50	0.37
New Hampshire . . . . .	15	2,066	4.44	0.34
Maryland . . . . .	16	7,159	4.39	0.30
Maine . . . . .	17	3,490	4.38	0.30
Iowa . . . . .	17	10,828	4.38	0.30
Vermont . . . . .	19	1,571	4.37	0.29
New Jersey . . . . .	20	17,612	4.36	0.28
Wisconsin . . . . .	21	12,743	4.34	0.27
Pennsylvania . . . . .	22	41,735	4.33	0.27
Rhode Island . . . . .	23	2,912	4.24	0.21
Indiana . . . . .	24	12,775	3.94	0.02
Michigan . . . . .	24	19,061	3.94	0.02
Wyoming . . . . .	26	866	3.84	-0.04
Montana . . . . .	27	2,036	3.79	-0.08
Utah . . . . .	28	1,836	3.62	-0.18
Kansas . . . . .	29	6,548	3.48	-0.27
North Dakota . . . . .	30	2,330	3.42	-0.31
Florida . . . . .	31	4,953	3.37	-0.34
South Dakota . . . . .	32	2,233	3.22	-0.44
Arizona . . . . .	33	1,276	2.93	-0.62
Texas . . . . .	34	16,954	2.91	-0.63
Virginia . . . . .	34	7,058	2.91	-0.63
Idaho . . . . .	36	1,284	2.89	-0.65
Tennessee . . . . .	37	6,732	2.57	-0.85
Georgia . . . . .	38	7,374	2.54	-0.87
New Mexico . . . . .	39	983	2.32	-1.01
Oklahoma . . . . .	40	5,524	2.31	-1.01
West Virginia . . . . .	41	3,864	2.23	-1.06
Louisiana . . . . .	42	4,611	2.19	-1.09
Kentucky . . . . .	43	5,689	2.18	-1.09
North Carolina . . . . .	44	6,005	1.89	-1.28
Arkansas . . . . .	45	2,905	1.57	-1.48
Alabama . . . . .	46	3,944	1.49	-1.53
Mississippi . . . . .	47	2,460	1.22	-1.70
South Carolina . . . . .	48	1,736	1.00	-1.84

\* Source: U.S. P.O. Dept., *Annual Report of the Postmaster General for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1932* (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1932), pp. 152-53.  
Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$3.91; standard deviation, \$1.58; U.S. total (in thousands), \$564,671; U.S. postal receipts per capita (including District of Columbia), \$4.60.



Four measures have been studied in attempting to answer this question. They relate (1) to the number of physicians, dentists, and trained nurses per 10,000 population in the various states; (2) to the number of hospital beds per 10,000 population; (3) to the per cent of the counties having hospitals; and (4) to the death rate from four communicable diseases, measles, whooping cough, diphtheria, and scarlet fever. It will be sufficient, however, for the purposes of this study to review only one of these measures, since it is highly representative of the others.

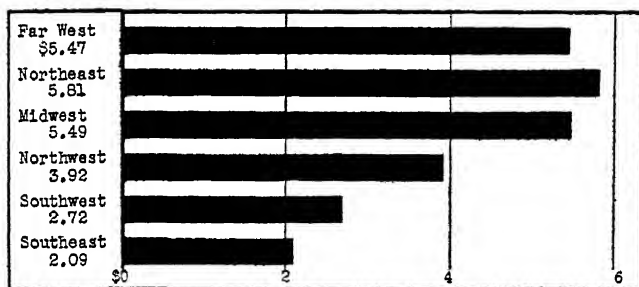


FIG. 158.—Regional summary of postal receipts per capita, 1932

The measure chosen is that which concerns the number of physicians, dentists, and trained nurses per 10,000 population in the various states. It is presented in terms of standard scores in Table 113 and Figures 159 and 160.

A marked similarity is revealed between the status of the regions in this respect and their status in library development. The Far West and Northeast rank highest, the Southwest and Southeast lowest, and the Northwest and Midwest fall in between. Table 114 shows that Illinois, Minnesota, New York, and Maryland rank relatively higher in number of physicians, etc., whereas Wyoming, Vermont, and New Hampshire rank relatively higher in library facilities.

*Recreational facilities and expenditures.*—The widespread provision of recreation is a further type of service that may be used as an index of economic ability. Governmentally organized recreation has come into existence in this country, particularly in

TABLE 113\*  
PHYSICIANS, DENTISTS, AND NURSES PER 10,000  
POPULATION, 1930 AND 1931

STATE	RANK	PHYSICIANS, DENTISTS, AND NURSES		STANDARD SCORE
		Total	Per 10,000 Population	
California.. . . .	1	38,871	68 47	2 41
Massachusetts . . . . .	2	28,396	66 82	2 28
Connecticut.. . . .	3	9,581	59.62	1 68
New York.....	4	73,551	58 43	1 59
Colorado. . . . .	5	5,586	53 93	1 22
New Hampshire.....	6	2,474	53 17	1 15
Minnesota... . . . .	7	13,607	53 07	1 14
Maryland.. . . .	8	8,513	52 18	1.07
Oregon.....	9	4,948	51 88	1.05
Washington.. . . .	10	7,871	50 35	0 92
Illinois.....	11	37,104	48.62	0 78
Vermont.....	12	1,726	48 00	0.73
Rhode Island . . . . .	13	3,264	47.48	0.68
Maine . . . . .	14	3,692	46 30	0 59
Pennsylvania. . . . .	15	43,315	44 97	0 48
Nevada.....	16	396	43 49	0.35
New Jersey.. . . .	17	17,532	43 38	0.35
Iowa.....	18	10,484	42 43	0.27
Nebraska.....	19	5,838	42 37	0 26
Ohio.....	20	28,069	42 23	0.25
Missouri.....	21	15,041	41 44	0.19
Michigan.....	22	19,741	40 77	0.13
Montana.....	23	2,151	40 01	0 07
Arizona.....	24	1,718	39 44	0 02
Wisconsin.. . . .	25	11,563	39 34	0 01
Delaware.. . . .	26	890	37.34	-0.15
Florida.....	27	5,284	35.99	-0.26
Kansas.....	28	6,741	35.84	-0.28
Indiana.....	29	11,578	35 75	-0.28
Utah.....	30	1,797	35 38	-0.31
Wyoming.....	31	781	34.62	-0.38
North Dakota.....	32	2,265	33.27	-0 49
Virginia.....	33	8,013	33.09	-0.50
South Dakota.....	34	2,222	32 07	-0.59
Idaho.....	35	1,368	30.74	-0.70
West Virginia.....	36	4,957	28.67	-0 87
Texas.....	37	16,600	28 50	-0 88
Tennessee.....	38	7,353	28.10	-0 91
Louisiana.....	39	5,768	27.45	-0 97
Georgia.....	40	7,707	26.50	-1.05
Oklahoma.....	41	6,006	25.07	-1.16
Kentucky.....	42	6,527	24.96	-1.17
North Carolina.....	43	7,609	24.00	-1.25
New Mexico... . . . .	44	991	23.41	-1.30
South Carolina.....	45	3,755	21.60	-1 45
Arkansas.....	46	3,957	21.34	-1.47
Alabama.....	47	5,563	21.02	-1.50
Mississippi.....	48	3,619	18.01	-1.75

\* Source: *The World Almanac for 1934* (N.Y.: N.Y. World-Telegram, 1934), p 866; *U.S. Census, 1930, Population, IV*, 112 ff.  
Mean per 10,000 population (based on means of the 48 states), 39.19; standard deviation, 12.13.

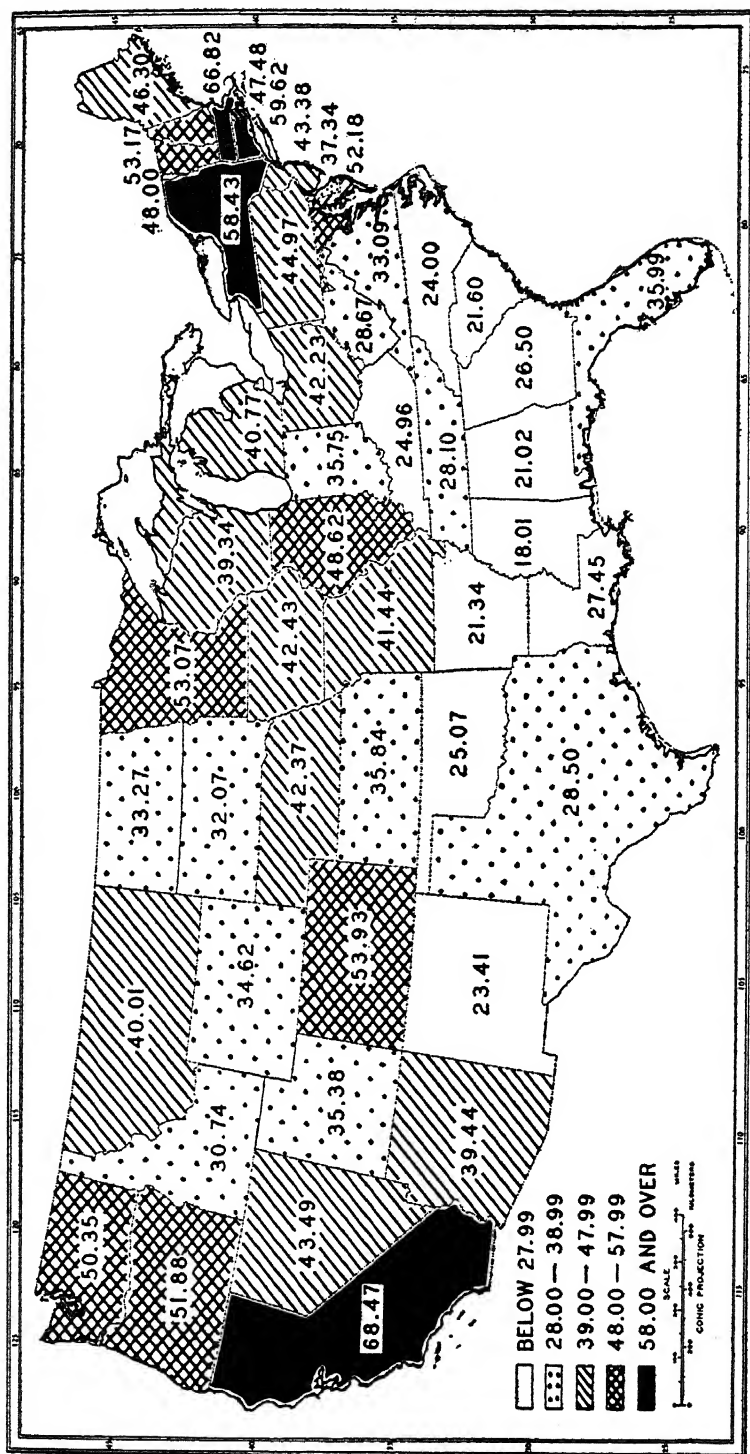


FIG. 159.—Physicians, dentists, and nurses per 10,000 population, 1930 and 1931. Source: Same as for Table 113. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

municipalities, since 1900. In 1904, according to figures in the *Financial Statistics of Cities over 30,000*,<sup>11</sup> the total spent for operating expenses was \$8,478,697. In 1931, the expenditures re-

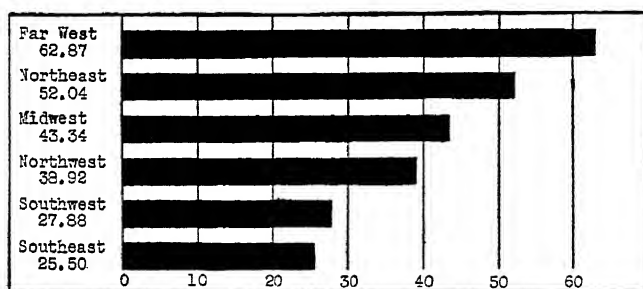


FIG. 160.—Regional summary of physicians, dentists, and nurses per 10,000 population, 1930 and 1931.

TABLE 114\*

SEVEN STATES COMPARED WITH RESPECT TO  
PHYSICIANS, DENTISTS, AND NURSES, AND  
TO LIBRARY SERVICE

STATE	STANDARD SCORE	
	Health Service	Library Service
Illinois . . . . .	0.78	0.45
Minnesota . . . . .	1.14	0.15
New York . . . . .	1.59	0.80
Maryland . . . . .	1.07	-0.11
Wyoming . . . . .	-0.38	1.11
Vermont . . . . .	0.73	1.52
New Hampshire . . . . .	1.15	2.16

\* Source: Tables 51 and 113.

ported for similar purposes in cities of over 30,000 was \$78,892,302. The per capita expenditure increased in the same period from \$0.39 to \$1.63<sup>12</sup> while the per cent of the total municipal income devoted to operating expenses for recreation only in-

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Financial Statistics of Cities Having a Population of over 30,000: 1904-1931* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1906-33). The titles of this series vary.

creased from 3.3 in 1910 to 3.6 in 1931. In this respect, it exhibited a marked similarity to percentage of municipal income devoted to the maintenance of libraries during the same period, except that it was nearly three times as high. It should be noted, also, in considering expenditure for organized public recreation, that it is for recreation in municipalities having a population of 30,000, or more, inasmuch as recreation is usually a feature of urban rather than of rural life.

While municipalities, counties, and other state and federal governmental divisions make provision for recreation for the public, the amount thus expended is negligible when contrasted with that which the public spends for recreation of all kinds. The following data are proffered, not in order to point a moral that the public has money to pay for those things for which it wishes to pay, but to show the vastness of these expenditures. The total spent for recreation in 1930, as given by Steiner in *Americans at Play*, was \$10,165,875,000. This was distributed as follows: (1) government expenditures, \$193,410,000, or 1.9 per cent; (2) travel and mobility, \$6,492,151,000, or 63.9 per cent; (3) commercial amusements, \$2,214,725,000, or 21.8 per cent; (4) leisure-time associations, \$125,000,000, or 3.8 per cent; and (5) games, sports, outdoor life, etc., \$883,071,000, or 8.7 per cent.<sup>12</sup>

This total for 1930, however, is not as important to the purposes of the present study as are the total receipts in 1933 for commercial amusements, including moving pictures, theaters, athletic contests, etc. These amounted to \$520,218,000, and although this sum was approximately only one-twentieth of the sum spent in 1930 for amusements of all kinds, it represents the amount Americans paid as admissions for commercial entertainment during what, in many respects, was the deepest depression year. When broken down on a per capita basis by states, as in Table 115, a range is shown of from \$8.67 in New York to \$0.73

<sup>12</sup> J. F. Steiner, *Americans at Play* (New York, McGraw-Hill Book Company 1933), p. 183. Per cents are not included in the original statement. The data for the most part are for 1930, but in some instances the latest figures available were for the years 1928 and 1929.



TABLE 115\*  
PER CAPITA RECEIPTS OF PLACES OF AMUSEMENT, 1933

STATE	RANK	RECEIPTS		STANDARD SCORE
		Total (in Thousands)	Per Capita	
New York. . . . .	1	\$109,148	\$8 67	2 77
California . . . . .	2	44,137	7 77	2 29
Illinois. . . . .	3	52,846	6 93	1 84
Nevada . . . . .	4	611	6.71	1 72
Massachusetts . . . . .	5	26,660	6 27	1 49
Maryland . . . . .	6	10,150	6.22	1 46
New Hampshire. . . . .	7	2,815	6 05	1.37
New Jersey . . . . .	8	22,699	5.62	1.14
Connecticut . . . . .	9	8,914	5 55	1.10
Rhode Island . . . . .	10	3,780	5.50	1 08
Washington . . . . .	11	8,067	5.16	0.89
Wyoming . . . . .	12	1,015	4.50	0 54
Delaware. . . . .	13	1,017	4.27	0 42
Ohio. . . . .	14	27,681	4.16	0.36
Oregon. . . . .	15	3,667	3.84	0 19
Pennsylvania . . . . .	16	35,574	3.69	0.11
Michigan. . . . .	17	17,613	3.64	0.08
Missouri . . . . .	18	13,158	3.63	0.07
Minnesota. . . . .	19	9,111	3 55	0 03
Florida . . . . .	20	4,982	3.49	0 00
Colorado . . . . .	21	3,475	3.35	-0.07
Montana. . . . .	22	1,794	3.34	-0 08
Arizona . . . . .	23	1,357	3.12	-0 20
Utah. . . . .	24	1,530	3 01	-0.26
Iowa . . . . .	25	7,292	2 95	-0 29
Kansas . . . . .	26	5,450	2 90	-0 32
Nebraska . . . . .	27	3,908	2.84	-0 35
Wisconsin . . . . .	28	8,296	2.82	-0 36
Indiana . . . . .	29	8,670	2.68	-0 43
Texas. . . . .	30	15,281	2.62	-0.47
Idaho. . . . .	31	1,146	2.58	-0 49
South Dakota. . . . .	32	1,752	2 53	-0 51
Louisiana. . . . .	33	5,288	2 52	-0 52
Oklahoma. . . . .	34	5,604	2.34	-0.62
Virginia. . . . .	35	5,401	2 23	-0 67
West Virginia. . . . .	36	3,764	2.18	-0 70
North Dakota . . . . .	37	1,460	2.14	-0.72
Kentucky . . . . .	38	5,429	2.08	-0.76
Maine . . . . .	39	1,621	2.03	-0.78
Vermont . . . . .	40	689	1.92	-0 84
Georgia . . . . .	41	4,940	1 70	-0.96
New Mexico. . . . .	42	686	1 62	-1.00
North Carolina. . . . .	43	4,783	1.51	-1 06
Tennessee. . . . .	44	3,737	1.43	-1.10
South Carolina. . . . .	45	2,055	1.18	-1.24
Arkansas. . . . .	46	1,761	0.95	-1.36
Alabama. . . . .	47	2,395	0.91	-1.38
Mississippi. . . . .	48	1,465	0.73	-1 48

\* Source: U.S. Bur. Census, *Census of American Business: 1933, Services, Amusements and Hotels*, 1 (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1933), p. xvii, Table 1c, p. 4.

Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$3.49; standard deviation, \$1 867; U.S. total (in thousands), \$520,218; U.S. receipts of places of amusement per capita (including District of Columbia), \$4.24.



in Mississippi. Careful comparison of this table (115) with the public library index (Table 51) discloses great similarity. The amount spent for amusement, when correlated with the index of library development, results in a coefficient of  $+0.73$ . This evidence strongly sustains the conviction that library service, like commercial amusement, is dependent upon an economic ability which is impossible of attainment in certain states where per capita income can meet only the barest requirements of physical subsistence.

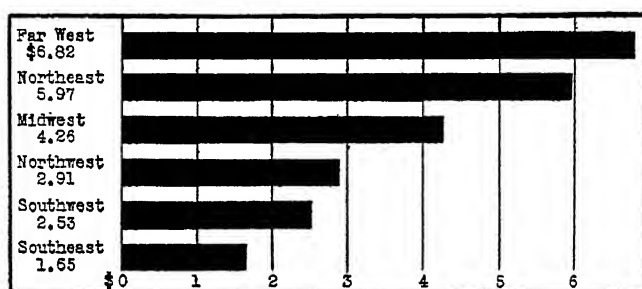


FIG. 162.—Regional summary of per capita receipts of places of amusement, 1933.

Figure 161 corroborates this evidence by showing that, almost without exception, the same states spend relatively large amounts for amusements and for the support of libraries (Fig. 18).

#### TAX-PAYING ABILITY

One of the most important indices of the ability of the various states to support public service is that based upon the tax income which would result from the application of an intelligent and uniform tax system to each state. A committee of the American Tax Association formulated such a model tax system in 1933. Estimates of the income which would result from its uniform application have since been worked out by students of education who have attempted to measure objectively and convincingly the relative ability of the states to support adequate educational programs. Mr. and Mrs. Norton, in their study

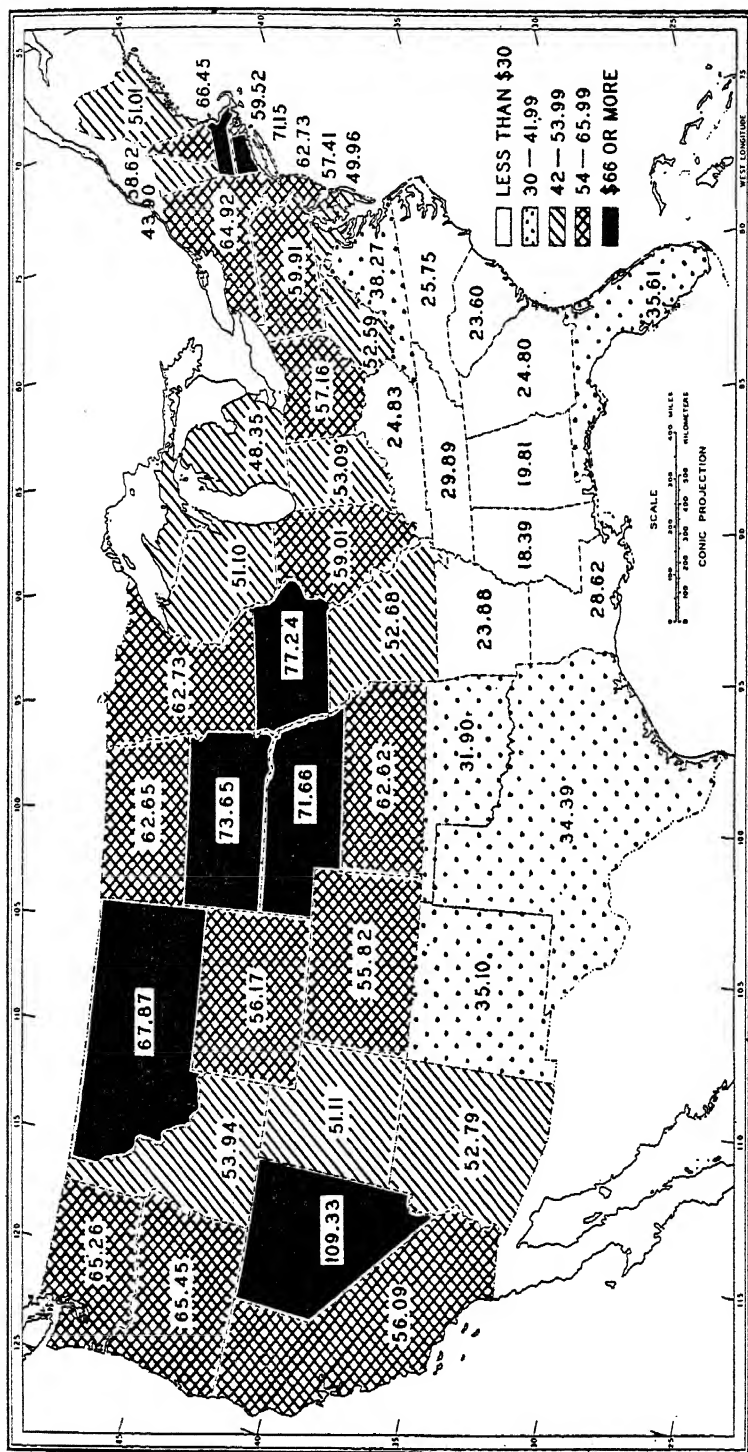


FIG. 163.—Per capita tax-paying ability of the states, 1932. Source: Same as for Table 116. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

published under the title *Wealth, Children and Education*, conclude that the

wide differences in the level of financial support provided education in different states are almost wholly the outcome of wide differences in ability to finance education. The disparities in financial support are not primarily due to the failure of some states to make proper effort to finance schools. In fact, states now providing the least adequate financial support for education, as a group, are making greater effort than those providing the most adequate financial support.<sup>13</sup>

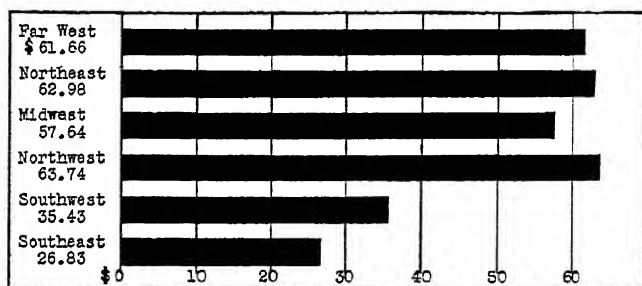


FIG. 164.—Regional summary of per capita tax-paying ability of the states, 1932

The parallel between library development and school adequacy and support is obvious. Both rest largely upon economic ability. Both suffer most in those areas where economic resources and family income provide very little margin above a subsistence standard of living. Table 116 and Figures 163 and 164 give data on the tax-paying ability of the various states, as calculated by Mr. Chism on the basis of the model tax plan prepared by the aforementioned committee.<sup>14</sup> A comparison of Figure 163 with Figure 18 (Per capita expenditure for public libraries, 1934) shows that twenty-one states are in the same interval on both; that five states rank one interval higher in library expenditure than in tax-paying ability; and that twenty-two states rank higher in tax-paying ability than in expenditures for library service.

No state ranks more than one interval higher in library expenditure than in tax-paying ability; but five states, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Arizona, and West Virginia, stand two

<sup>13</sup> Norton and Norton, *op. cit.*, p. 70.

<sup>14</sup> Chism, *op. cit.*, p. 124.

TABLE 116\*  
PER CAPITA TAX-PAYING ABILITY OF THE STATES, 1932

STATE	RANK	TAX-PAYING ABILITY		STANDARD SCORE
		Total (in Thousands)	Per Capita	
Nevada . . . . .	1	\$ 10,168	109.33	3 24
Iowa . . . . .	2	191,479	77.24	1.45
South Dakota . . . . .	3	51,555	73.65	1.25
Nebraska . . . . .	4	99,469	71.66	1.14
Connecticut . . . . .	5	116,263	71.15	1.11
Montana . . . . .	6	36,513	67.87	0.93
Massachusetts . . . . .	7	285,542	66.45	0.85
Oregon . . . . .	8	63,527	65.45	0.80
Washington . . . . .	9	103,638	65.26	0.78
New York . . . . .	10	834,313	64.92	0.76
Minnesota . . . . .	11	162,149	62.73	0.64
New Jersey . . . . .	11	260,189	62.73	0.64
North Dakota . . . . .	13	42,916	62.65	0.64
Kansas . . . . .	14	118,601	62.62	0.64
Pennsylvania . . . . .	15	583,632	59.91	0.48
Rhode Island . . . . .	16	41,546	59.52	0.46
Illinois . . . . .	17	458,407	59.01	0.43
New Hampshire . . . . .	18	27,433	58.62	0.41
Delaware . . . . .	19	13,779	57.41	0.35
Ohio . . . . .	20	385,978	57.16	0.33
Wyoming . . . . .	21	12,864	56.17	0.28
California . . . . .	22	333,550	56.09	0.27
Colorado . . . . .	23	58,446	55.82	0.26
Idaho . . . . .	24	24,113	53.94	0.15
Indiana . . . . .	25	173,883	53.09	0.10
Arizona . . . . .	26	23,650	52.79	0.09
Missouri . . . . .	27	192,588	52.68	0.08
West Virginia . . . . .	28	92,614	52.59	0.08
Utah . . . . .	29	26,323	51.11	-0.01
Wisconsin . . . . .	30	152,084	51.10	-0.01
Maine . . . . .	31	40,861	51.01	-0.01
Maryland . . . . .	32	82,581	49.96	-0.07
Michigan . . . . .	33	240,932	48.35	-0.16
Vermont . . . . .	34	15,804	43.90	-0.41
Virginia . . . . .	35	93,195	38.27	-0.72
Florida . . . . .	36	54,410	35.61	-0.87
New Mexico . . . . .	37	15,127	35.10	-0.90
Texas . . . . .	38	205,073	34.39	-0.94
Oklahoma . . . . .	39	77,848	31.90	-1.08
Tennessee . . . . .	40	79,220	29.89	-1.19
Louisiana . . . . .	41	61,188	28.62	-1.26
North Carolina . . . . .	42	83,542	25.75	-1.42
Kentucky . . . . .	43	65,501	24.83	-1.47
Georgia . . . . .	44	72,175	24.80	-1.48
Arkansas . . . . .	45	44,587	23.88	-1.53
South Carolina . . . . .	46	41,182	23.60	-1.54
Alabama . . . . .	47	53,141	19.81	-1.75
Mississippi . . . . .	48	37,444	18.39	-1.83

\* Source: L. L. Chism, *The Economic Ability of the States to Finance Public Schools*, Teachers College Contributions to Education, No. 669 (N.Y.: T.C.C.U., 1936), p. 124, col. 98, U.S. Cong., Senate, Com. on Educ. and Labor, *Hearings before the Committee on Education and Labor*, S. 419, 75th Cong., 1st Sess. (Wash.: Govt. Print. Off., 1937), p. 23.

Mean per capita (based on means of the 48 states), \$50.80; standard deviation, \$17.91; U.S. total (in thousands), \$6,341,023; U.S. per capita tax-paying ability (including District of Columbia), \$51.23.

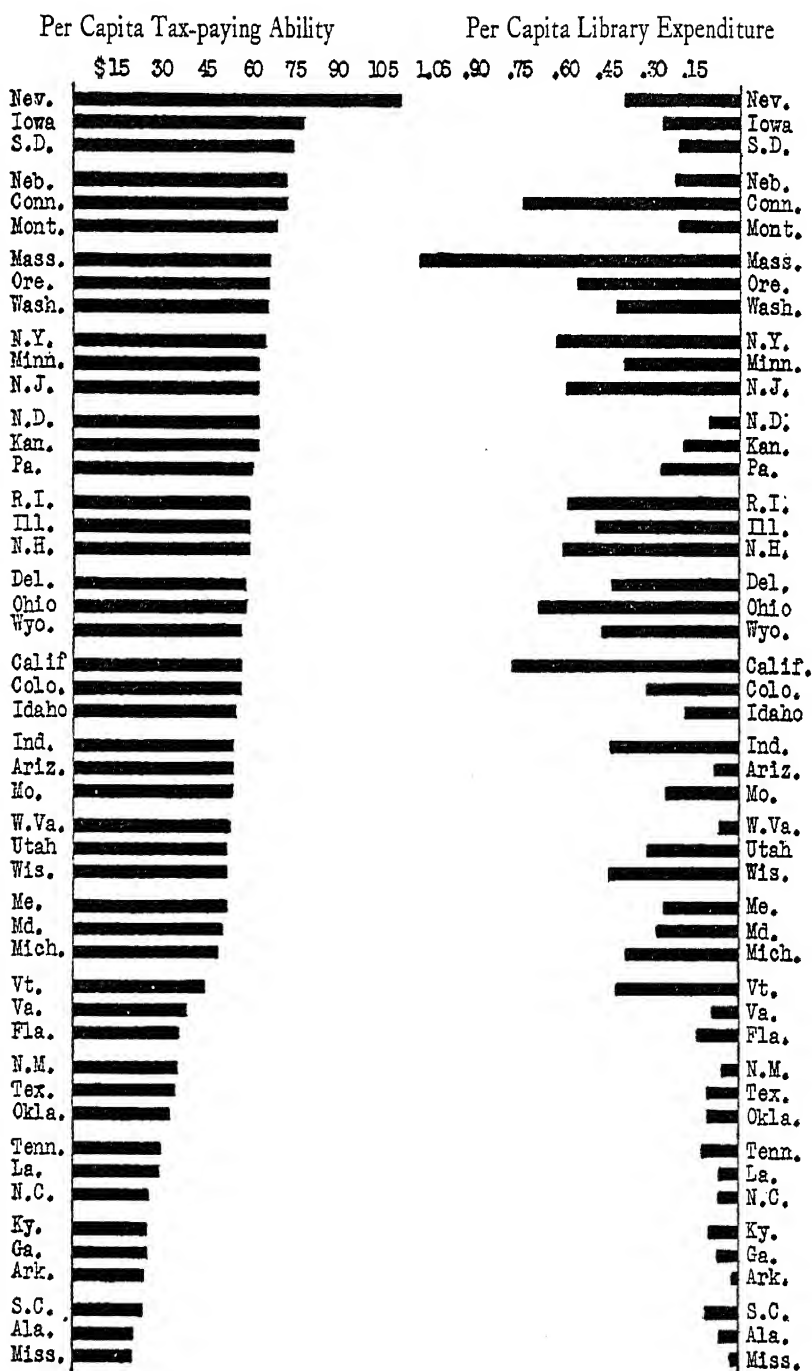


FIG. 165.—Comparison of per capita tax-paying ability and library expenditure

intervals higher with respect to tax-paying ability than to library expenditure; and five states rank three intervals higher in tax-paying ability. The latter five states are Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, and North Dakota. Of the ten states ranking significantly higher in tax-paying ability than in expenditure for library service, all but Pennsylvania and West Virginia are west of the Mississippi. All are predominantly rural, with the exception of Pennsylvania. Apparently the difficulties involved in providing service to a relatively sparse population have prevented the development of library facilities, despite relatively high tax-paying ability. These difficulties have

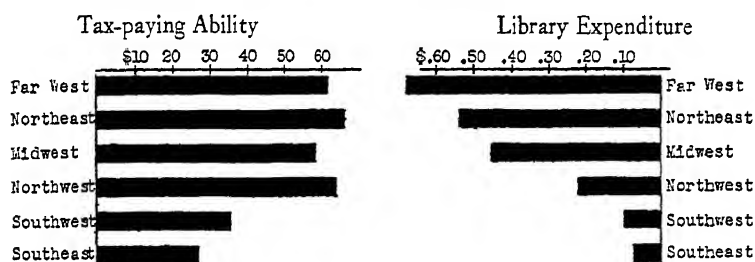


FIG. 166.—Regional summary of comparison of tax-paying ability and library expenditure.

obviously been increased in some of the states by drought and dust storms since 1932, the year for which the data in Table 116 were given.

In the light of this evidence it seems safe to conclude, tentatively, that tax-paying ability, unless considered in the light of other factors, density of population, topography, etc., may not be accurately representative of ability to support library service. That is, many sparsely populated or mountainous states with relatively high tax-paying ability undoubtedly find the support of library service much more difficult than do states of corresponding wealth, but of more concentrated population. Apparent exceptions to this generalization are Idaho and Wyoming. The former ranks higher in library support than in tax-paying ability, while the latter ranks in the same interval on both maps. Regional variations in tax-paying ability, as shown



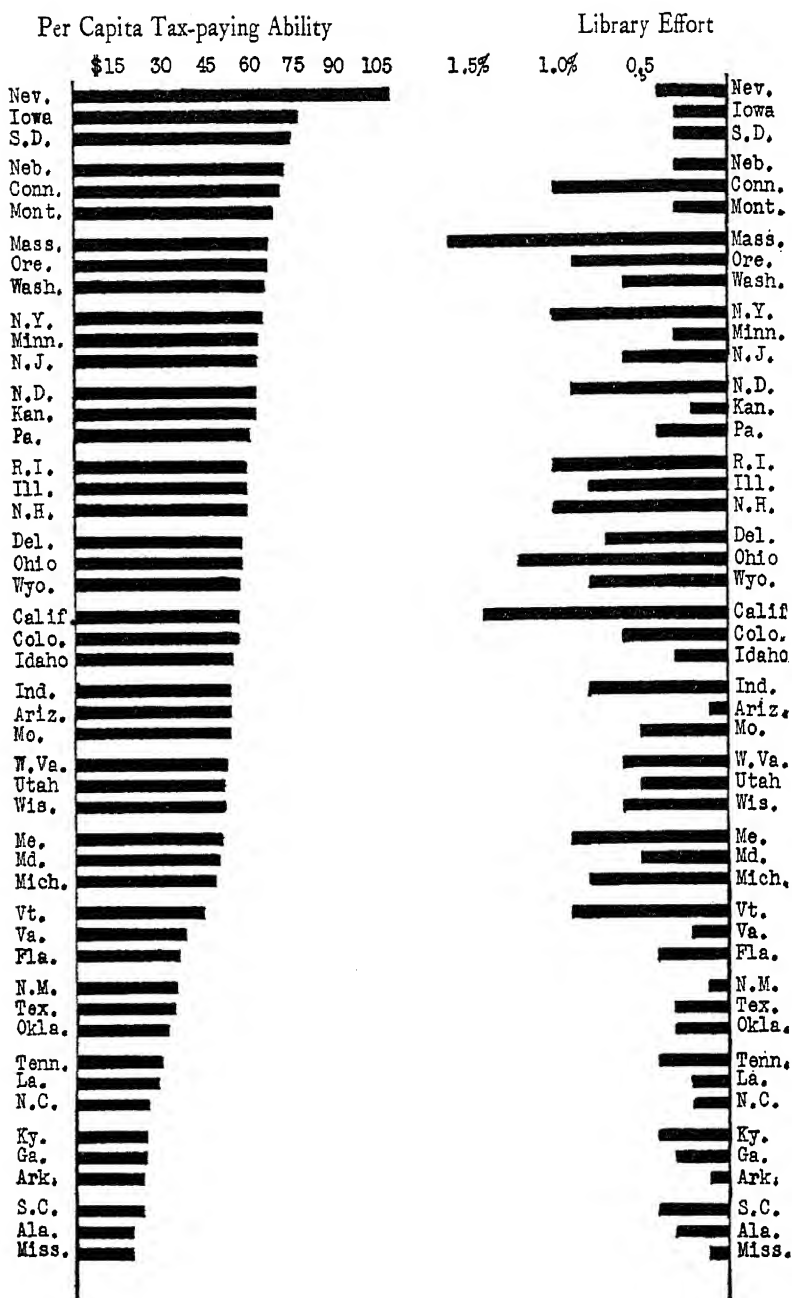


FIG. 167.\*—Comparison of per capita tax-paying ability and library effort

\* Source: Table 19 (per capita expenditure for public libraries, 1934) and Table 116 (per capita tax-paying ability of the states, 1932). The index of library effort is derived by dividing per capita expenditure by per capita tax-paying ability.

in Figure 164, differ in pattern from most of the regional summary charts in that the first four regions, Far West, Northeast, Midwest, and Northwest, vary but little in ability to pay taxes. The two southern regions conform to the usual pattern.

Figure 165 indicates in graphic form the relative status of each state in tax-paying ability and in library expenditure. It will be seen that there is some tendency for states ranking relatively high in tax-paying ability to rank high, also, in library expenditure. The tendency for a state of low tax-paying ability to rank low in library expenditure is much more marked. Figure 166 summarizes the data by regions.

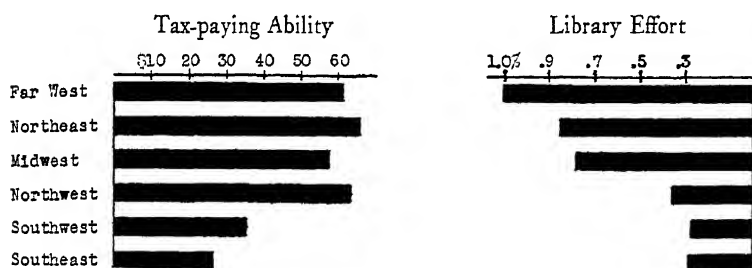


FIG. 168.—Regional summary of comparison of per capita tax-paying ability and library effort.

Figure 167 similarly compares indices of tax-paying ability and of library effort. The 1934 index of library effort constitutes that per cent which library expenditure is of the total amount the state could have raised under the model tax system. Figure 168 presents in regional summary form the index of library effort compared with that of per capita tax-paying ability.

#### SUMMARY

Whatever index of wealth is used, the same general conclusions are reached, namely, that economic ability is a significant factor in the variation of library development, and that individual states diverge from the general pattern. A few states expend for library service an amount beyond that which would be expected from their economic status, while others spend decidedly less. In this respect they exhibit the same characteris-

TABLE 117\*  
INDEX OF ECONOMIC ABILITY AND INDEX OF PUBLIC  
LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

STATE	RANK	STANDARD SCORE	
		Economic Ability	Public Library Development
New York...	1	2.52	0.80
Connecticut.....	2	1.94	1.56
Massachusetts ..	3	1.76	2.31
New Jersey... ..	4	1.34	0.96
Rhode Island. ....	4	1.34	1.14
Illinois..... ..	6	1.32	0.43
California.. .. .	7	1.05	2.06
Delaware..... ..	8	0.95	0.71
Nevada.... .. .	9	0.91	0.63
Pennsylvania ....	10	0.82	-0.39
Ohio..... .. .	11	0.75	0.98
New Hampshire ..	12	0.60	2.16
Vermont..... ..	13	0.59	1.52
Maryland..... ..	14	0.48	-0.11
Minnesota.. ....	14	0.48	0.15
Iowa..... .. .	16	0.44	-0.01
Michigan . . . . .	17	0.41	0.37
Missouri..... ..	18	0.34	-0.37
Wisconsin. . . . .	19	0.33	0.58
Nebraska ... ..	20	0.30	-0.23
Oregon..... .. .	21	0.26	0.90
Wyoming..... ..	22	0.23	1.11
Colorado... .. .	23	0.22	0.02
Maine..... .. .	24	0.20	0.68
Montana. . . . .	25	0.05	-0.18
Indiana..... .. .	26	0.04	0.77
Washington.....	27	0.00	0.52
South Dakota . .	28	-0.18	-0.60
Kansas..... .. .	29	-0.21	-0.51
Utah... .. .	30	-0.26	0.16
North Dakota... .	31	-0.39	-1.11
Idaho .. . . . .	32	-0.46	-0.64
West Virginia ..	33	-0.55	-1.39
Arizona.... .. .	34	-0.59	-0.50
Virginia..... ..	35	-0.76	-0.90
Florida.. .. .	36	-0.85	-0.82
Texas .. . . . .	37	-0.89	-0.97
New Mexico .. .	38	-1.02	-1.07
Oklahoma..... ..	39	-1.07	-0.81
Tennessee .....	40	-1.11	-0.82
Kentucky..... ..	41	-1.14	-0.99
Louisiana..... ..	42	-1.17	-1.06
Georgia..... .. .	43	-1.28	-1.14
North Carolina....	44	-1.30	-0.97
Alabama .. . . .	45	-1.55	-1.14
South Carolina.....	45	-1.55	-1.06
Arkansas..... ..	47	-1.61	-1.45
Mississippi..... ..	48	-1.78	-1.28

\* Source: L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chic.: U. of C. Press, 1935), p. 10, Fig. 6, Table 51.

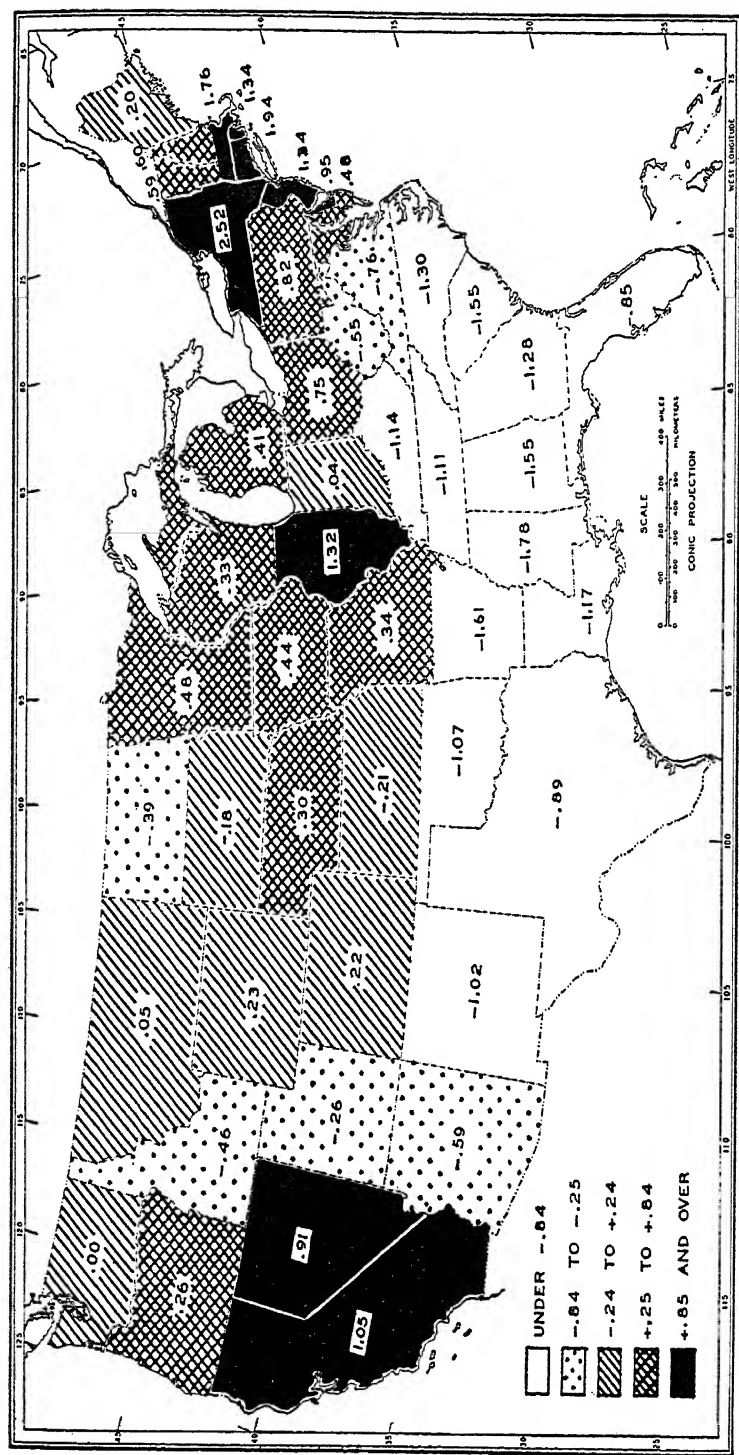


FIG. 169.—Index of economic ability. Source: L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), Fig. 6, p. 10. (Goode Base Map, No. 110, published by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.)

tics evidenced in the relation of economic ability to financial support of education. Further conclusions growing out of the consideration of data presented in this chapter are: in general, areas which are most seriously lacking in library service are those having least to spend for it; individual states vary widely in their effort to support library service; and, other factors beside economic ability are important in determining the degree of library development within a given area.

Table 117 and Figures 169 and 170 summarize the evidence as to the distribution of economic ability in the form of an

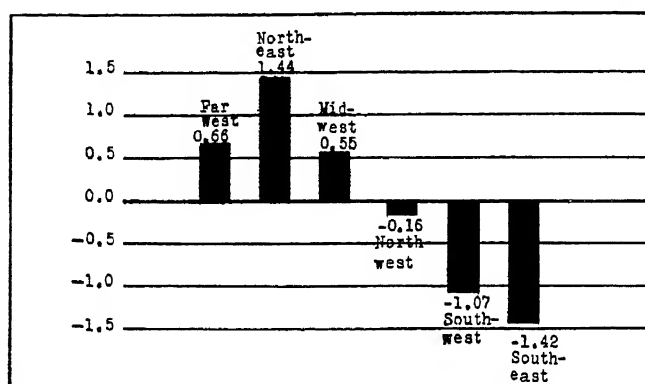


FIG. 170.—Regional summary of index of economic ability

index based on six separate factors. Figure 169 does not differ greatly from the maps of the separate indices of wealth which have been discussed. It is, however, somewhat more convincing by virtue of its composite nature. If Figure 169 is compared with the figure for library expenditure (Fig. 18), it is found that twenty-three states are in the same interval on both, and seven states rank two intervals higher with respect to wealth than with respect to library expenditure. Apparently, in relation to the wealth and library expenditure of other states these seven spend less for library service than they can afford. However, if the two maps were made more exactly comparable by basing the map of library expenditure on standard scores, only the two states, Missouri and Nebraska, of the seven would vary two intervals.

A comparison of Figure 169 with the library index map (Fig. 50) is more objective because of the strict comparability of the

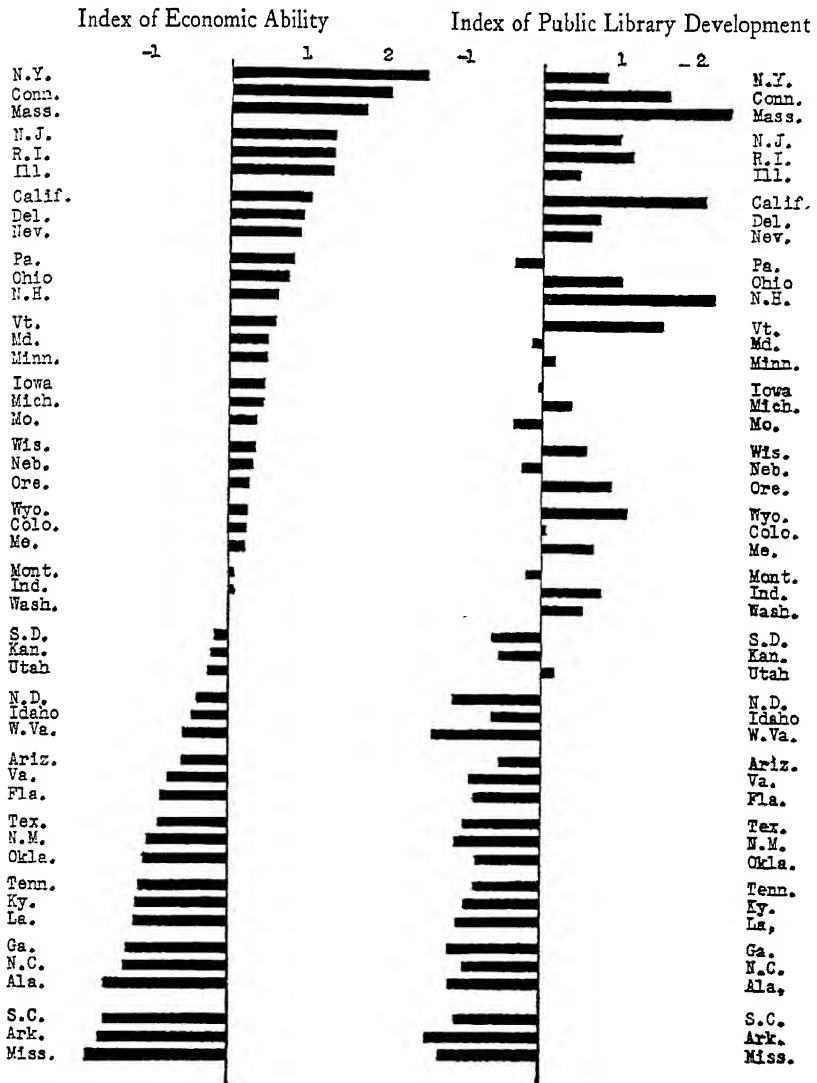


FIG. 171.—Comparison of index of economic ability and index of public library development.

legend used, but it adds little to what has already been demonstrated. Twenty-two states are in the same interval; two states, Pennsylvania and Missouri, stand two intervals higher in wealth

than in library service; and Wyoming ranks two intervals higher in library service than in wealth. This comparison is further clarified by an examination of Figure 171. In it only seven states show inverse deviation from their respective averages. The only inconsistency to be noted in comparing the relative status of the six regions (Fig. 172) with respect to wealth and library service is in the reversed position of the two bars of the Far West and the two bars of the Northeast. The states of the

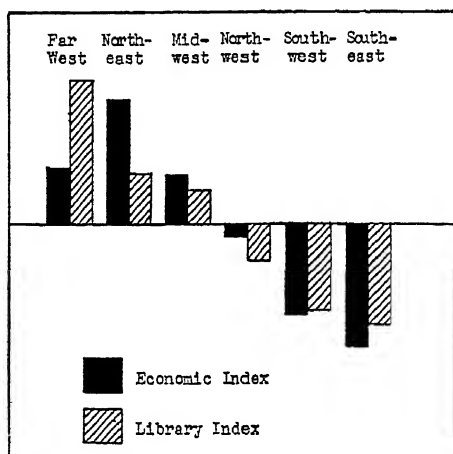


FIG. 172.—Regional summary of comparison of index of economic ability and index of public library development.

Far West have developed their libraries to a degree exceeding that predictable from their wealth, while in the Northeast, library development in relation to wealth has been relatively less extensive. The reversal of the status of regions is due, in part, to the dominant library development of California, and also to the comparative dissimilarity of library development among the states comprising the Northeast.

The purpose of establishing libraries, of stocking them with varied book resources, of staffing them with experts who can make their resources available to the public, is to have them used. The principal measure of use, as was shown in chapter iv, is per capita circulation. This has been, and still is, the library's chief yardstick for measuring its service to the com-

munity. Consequently the relationship between economic ability, as reflected in library expenditure, and per capita circula-

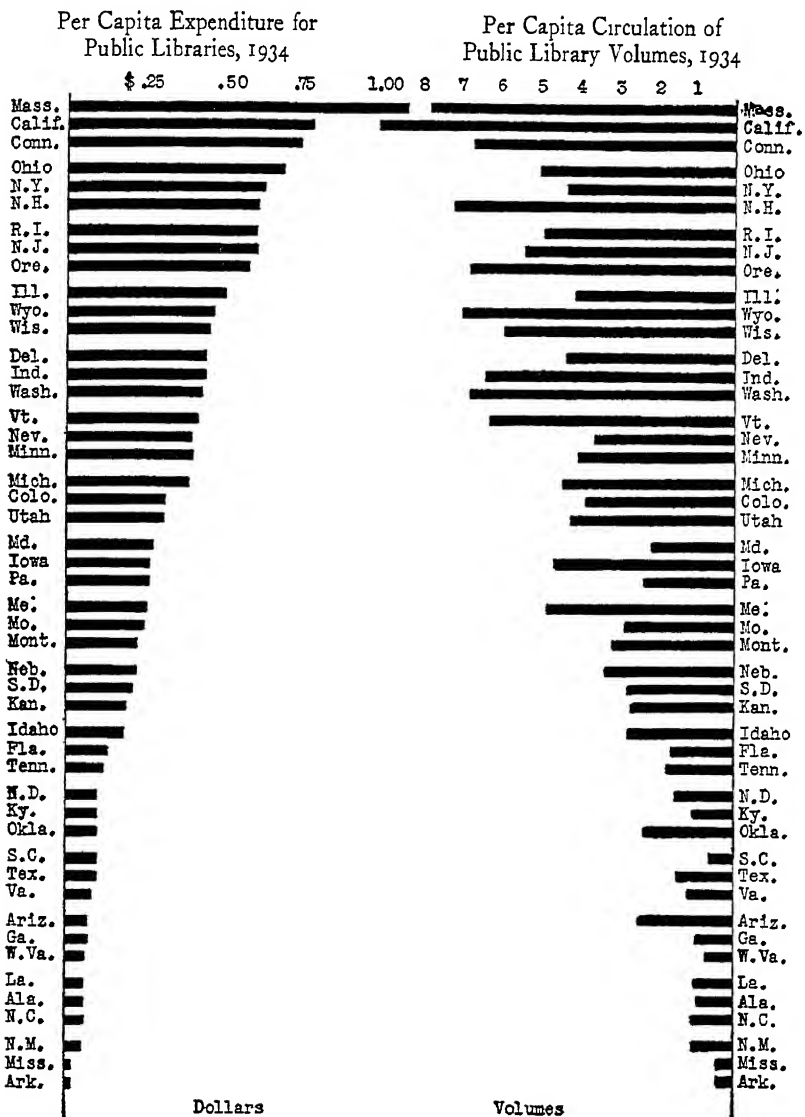


FIG. 173.—Comparison of per capita expenditure for public libraries, 1934, and per capita circulation of public library volumes, 1934.

tion is definitely significant. This is graphically portrayed by Figure 173, and (as also in chapter iv) indicates that in the case



of thirty of the states this relationship is a very close one. In fact, the bearing which expenditure has upon circulation is so great that Mr. Purdy, in his study of libraries in seven mid-western states, concluded that if libraries were given varying amounts for support, resulting variations in circulation could be predicted with a surprisingly high degree of certainty.<sup>15</sup> The evidence presented in this study, and in others, leads to the conviction that effective library use rests ultimately and largely upon financial ability. For, other things being equal, where the latter is high, library service of a high order can be maintained; and, likewise, where it is low, poor library service may normally be expected.

<sup>15</sup> Purdy, *op. cit.*, pp. 30-31.

## CHAPTER XV

### OTHER CAUSAL FACTORS

**T**URNING from the roles which geography, population, and economic ability have played in producing variation in the development of the library as a social institution in the United States, it is now pertinent to consider other factors which have helped shape the library pattern of the nation. These are numerous, and, although it is not possible to treat them quantitatively, as has been done with the factors in the preceding chapter, they are no less significant.

#### THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY MOVEMENT

Foremost among these factors must be placed the philosophy, or spirit which underlies the American library movement. Although the first free, tax-supported American public library was established approximately a century ago, this philosophy, or spirit, upon which the movement has been based still lacks definitive description. Even on the part of librarians there is disagreement as to what it is. The founders of the American Library Association in 1876 (a quarter of a century after the founding of the Boston Public Library) did not concern themselves so much with the formulation and statement of their philosophy as they did with the formulation of specific objectives and with the adoption of concrete measures by means of which these might be achieved. Depending upon the assumptions underlying the beginnings of the public library movement and the expression of philosophical opinions of former librarians, educators, and state and municipal officials concerning the purposes of libraries, the founders decided that the library movement, and librarianship in general, could profit from the organization of a professional association. Without loss of motion they founded one. They decided further that they needed a professional organ

of communication, a source of standardized supplies and equipment, a classification system and a body of cataloging rules, an additional major bibliographical tool dealing with American publications, and a library school for the training of competent personnel for the direction of libraries. In rapid order, *The Library Journal* was established, the Library Bureau began to produce supplies and equipment, the Dewey *Classification and Relative Index* and the Cutter *Rules for a Dictionary Catalogue* were developed, the *American Catalogue* began publication, and the first library school at Columbia was projected. Dewey and Bowker, Cutter and Leypoldt, and their associates *did* these things, but largely left unsaid *why* they acted with such dispatch and unanimity, and what they *thought* and *believed* about libraries.

Three librarians of the younger generation, who have recently expressed their views on the subject, have ascribed the rise of the public library in America to three different causes or philosophies. Mr. Borden holds that the influences which brought the library into being were largely educational, democratic, and social. The library grew out of America's demand for educational opportunity and the necessity of training citizens for effective participation in democracy. It came, not so much in response to the imposition of influences outside of the people themselves, as to an inner, though not particularly articulate, urge from the people themselves.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Wellard, a student from England, based his conclusions largely upon English parliamentary reports and debates of the 1840's and 1850's and upon American executive, legislative, and state department of education reports of the 1830's and later. He associates the development of the public library in England, and to a less extent in our own country, with the growth of philanthropy and the reform movement which undertook to improve the general lot of the laboring class. The library, he contends, was conceived at first as an antidote to the

<sup>1</sup> A. K. Borden, "The Sociological Beginning of the Library Movement," *Library Quarterly*, I (1931), 278-82.

public house and the saloon; later, it was regarded by some as "an annex to the public schools"; and, later still, it was supposed to serve as both a recreational and educational institution, in which the public was allowed considerable influence in determining the type of books to be selected for its use.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. Orman, looking at the question during the darkest period of the depression, when library revenues were being singled out by many communities for early and deep slashing, sees the American public library arising in response to a demand of an economic order to secure a body of workers, who, trained in part (Americanized) by the library, could produce goods effectively. This demand, he contends, has grown more feeble in the past decade, as may be seen in the smaller support received by libraries now that the machine has been brought to such a degree of perfection that it is no longer necessary to make special provision for the education of the worker through the library.<sup>3</sup>

Mr. Joeckel and Mrs. Fisher, two other writers, trace, respectively, the historical forms of library organization which preceded and accompanied the beginning of the public library movement<sup>4</sup> and, also, the growth of interest in education at various levels as it found self-expression through the public school, lyceums, chautauquas, women's clubs, and other organizations concerned with educational and cultural advancement, and as it provided the principal stimulus to public library development.<sup>5</sup>

All of these statements contribute something to the understanding of the assumptions upon which the public library has rested in the past and upon which it rests today. America's de-

<sup>2</sup> J. H. Wellard, *Book Selection, Its Principles and Practice* (London: Grafton and Company, 1937), chap. vi, pp. 71-82.

<sup>3</sup> O. C. Orman, "The Philosophy of Librarianship," *American Library Association, Bulletin*, XXIX (1935), 820-27.

<sup>4</sup> C. B. Joeckel, *The Government of the American Public Library* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), chap. i.

<sup>5</sup> D. C. Fisher, *Why Stop Learning?* (New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1927), pp. 44-78.

votion to the principles of freedom, of equality, and of democracy is written alike in the Declaration of Independence, in the deeds of the soldiers of the American Revolution, and in the Constitution of the United States. Belief in education, and the accompanying desire to bring it within the range of the individual and of the general public, found expression in various ways: in the organization of the association library by Franklin in 1731; in statements of Washington, Jefferson, and other early national leaders;<sup>6</sup> in the establishment of state universities;<sup>7</sup> in the inauguration of state educational systems in the early 1800's; and in the provision of school district libraries in a number of states prior to the founding of the Boston Public Library in 1851. The growth of the lyceum movement from the early 1800's to the 1860's, the activities of the Smithsonian Institution and of the U.S. Bureau (now Office) of Education in behalf of libraries, the increased leisure within homes as well as in industry, the development of women's clubs and university extension service from 1870 to 1920, and the establishment of evening classes during the first third of the present century—all these have emphasized this belief, and they have accentuated the demand for the services of the library as contributing to the promotion of general education and to the preparation of the individual for membership in a democratic society. Philanthropists and organized minorities have shared this same point of view. Since the 1920's, the adult education movement has further reinforced it; and since 1930, the depression has brought into clear perspective both the educational and recreational functions which the library performs in times of stress. On such a foundation the library movement has rested, and on

<sup>6</sup> C. A. Beard, in National Education Association of the United States, Educational Policies Commission, *The Unique Function of Education in American Democracy* (Washington: National Education Association of the United States and the Department of Superintendence, 1937), summarizes the educational philosophy of Washington, Jefferson, and of the Jacksonian era. His summary serves as excellent background for the library movement which developed later.

<sup>7</sup> North Carolina, *Laws of the State: 1715-1796* (Raleigh: J. Gales, 1821), sec. 41, p. 51. The constitution of this state called in 1776 for the founding of one or more universities.

such assumptions librarians and others have joined in common cause to provide a broader base of support for library service in those regions in which it is inadequate or is totally lacking.

#### PHILANTHROPY

The contribution which philanthropy made to the promotion of library service has been suggested in chapter i in the statement concerning the gifts between 1896 and 1923 of Andrew Carnegie and the Carnegie Corporation of New York. It was shown that relatively few library buildings were erected in New England through gifts from those sources as most of the New England communities already had library buildings. The Middle West, the Northwest, and the Far West were the principal beneficiaries. They were financially able to meet the conditions incident to receiving grants, whereas the Southeast and Southwest were not. The period 1896-1923, during which these grants were available, witnessed a great extension in library service. Sixteen hundred and seventy-seven buildings, including branches, were erected in forty-six states and the District of Columbia and served a total population of 32,956,500.<sup>8</sup> Provision of buildings and of endowment for support by other donors has been made, likewise, in every section of the country, particularly in New England, and has added greatly to the extension of library privileges.

#### ATTITUDES

To measure the effect of attitudes is extremely difficult and requires the application of highly specialized techniques under controlled conditions. But there can be no doubt that attitudes characteristic of the various regions and subregions of the nation have contributed to the multiplication or limitation of library facilities. Belief in education was firmly lodged in the New England mind. The establishment of Harvard, in 1636, and of the first printing press, in 1638, occurred in Cambridge

<sup>8</sup> W. S. Learned, *The American Public Library and the Diffusion of Knowledge* (New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1934), Table facing p. 72.

before the Plymouth Fathers had spent two decades in the American wilderness. New York had been the first state to establish school district libraries supported by public funds—a type of public library that had a precarious existence for a number of years subsequent to 1835—and it has continued to assist registered public libraries through grants-in-aid until the present time.

The Massachusetts town, however, early developed the town library, and it also produced in considerable number the library donor. To the same state belongs the distinction of establishing, in 1890, the first state library commission charged specifically with the promotion of public library service. But it has fallen to the lot of such states as California, Wyoming, Indiana, and New Jersey to develop extensively state and county library systems which have, through planned co-operation, freely placed the resources of many libraries at the disposal of the public.

The idea of local self-government, so strongly entrenched in the New England mind, and communicated to minds in other regions, has made it difficult for libraries located in different political units to draw upon each other for extensive assistance in the organization and administration of general co-operative service. In accounting for the development of county libraries in California, it is interesting to speculate as to whether or not the dependence upon co-operation in regard to irrigation and fruitselling enterprises of the agricultural interests of that state may not have played a significant role.<sup>9</sup>

In the Southeast, a different set of attitudes has played an equally significant role. Prior to the Revolution, the Southeast shared with the other colonies their interest in independence and

<sup>9</sup> In 1878, the legislature of California passed the first law designed to provide proper public control of the appropriation and use of water. Cf. Frank Adams, "Second Progress Report of Co-operative Irrigation Investigations in California," U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Experiment Stations, *Circular* 108 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1911), p. 8. The California Fruit Growers Exchange (formerly the Southern California Fruit Exchange) was incorporated in 1895. Cf. J. W. Lloyd, "Co-operative and Other Organized Methods of Marketing California Horticultural Products," *University of Illinois Studies in the Social Sciences*, VIII (March, 1919), p. 10.

equality of opportunity. Virginia furnished the author of the Declaration of Independence and the leader of the armed forces of the Revolution. North Carolina wrote into her first constitution, in 1776, a provision for a state university. But slavery, the invention of the cotton gin, and the consequent development of cotton culture modified these attitudes and, so far as libraries were concerned, led to the development of private or association libraries prior to the Civil War. The war was followed by a general prostration which continued for several decades, and then the association library for whites began to multiply.

At the turn of the century came the development of the public library, which at first offered to Negroes only a limited service or none whatever. At present, there are but seventy-five public libraries in the Southeast and Southwest which provide service to Negroes; and that is inferior as compared with the service to whites. The attitude that "book learning" is of little value to the Negro has given way but slowly. This has not only delayed the development of public library service to Negroes, but on account of legal complications, to which the provision of certain services to two races within a state gives rise, it has delayed the provision of such service generally.

Mr. Purdy, in his study of the variation in library service in seven of the Middle West states, found that, although economic ability and urbanization accounted largely for variations in library status, they failed to account, to the degree anticipated, for the status of the library in Indiana. The actual development of public library service in many counties of that state was materially higher than would have been predicted from the wealth and urbanization of the respective counties.<sup>10</sup> He came to no conclusion as to the cause which produced the exception; but the opinion might be offered that it was due to the attitude held toward public education by many of the early settlers and which had found expression in a provision of their constitution of 1816,

<sup>10</sup> G. F. Purdy, "Public Library Service in the Middle West" (Unpublished Ph. D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1936), pp. 87-88.



authorizing the establishment of "library companies."<sup>11</sup> These companies were to be located at the county seat of each new county and were to be supported by the proceeds of 10 per cent of the sale of town lots. Here was an attitude favorable to the inclusion of the inhabitants of a whole county in a library service area—a unit larger than the local school district, or township, or municipality in which the library happened to be located.

The following factors have undoubtedly contributed in differing degree to the varying pattern of library development in America: the belief in Indiana in the efficacy of general education; the adherence in the New England and many other states to the ideas of local self-government within town and municipal limits; the familiarity in California with co-operation in agricultural activities; the attitudes in the Southeast, called into being through slavery and a cotton economy; and the impacts, in general, of European and other cultures upon American institutions. Attitudes and ideas such as these, as well as economic and other factors, have largely determined the availability of the open book to countless thousands.

#### THE INFLUENCE OF WOMEN'S CLUBS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The influence of attitudes in the abstract has been shown in the preceding paragraphs. When the history of the public library movement in the United States is written, the part which women's clubs have played in it—organizations in which an attitude toward general culture has been made concrete—may rank well along with that played by the philanthropist and the advocate of freedom, education, and democracy. Mrs. Fisher, in *Why Stop Learning?* vividly sketches the rise and development of these organizations in the late 1800's.<sup>12</sup> The philanthropist has given money outright for buildings or endowment; the advocate has striven for a general cause; the women's clubs, on

<sup>11</sup> Joeckel, *The Government of the American Public Library*, p. 14.

<sup>12</sup> Fisher, *op. cit.*, pp. 79-115.

the contrary, have initiated movements for the establishment of local libraries, have provided local support, have joined with professional librarians and other civic bodies in securing state-wide library legislation, and in general have been, next to librarians, the principal promoters of library service in many states.

Miss Sullens, in writing of their influence upon the library movement in general and with special respect to Oklahoma, says, "Women's clubs, in addition to having started two-thirds of the state's public libraries, have been in the vanguard of almost every forward movement made for library service in Oklahoma."<sup>13</sup> Similar testimony might be offered by many other states. Since 1900, in the period in which organizations for men and women have greatly increased, the American Association of University Women, the League of Women Voters, the National Congress of Parent-Teachers, the American Legion Auxiliary, and the men's service clubs have also joined in the support of libraries and have contributed especially to the enactment of recent legislation for state aid and the expansion of state library agencies in states such as Illinois, Ohio, Arkansas, and Vermont. These organizations have not only been, in many instances, extensive consumers of library service themselves, but they have sought the extension and improvement of such service to others.

#### LEGISLATION

Philosophies and attitudes concerning libraries usually assume formulated expression in legislative enactment. Thus the public will in regard to them is manifested. The form which library legislation has taken, therefore, has been extremely important in determining the nature and extent of library service.

As has been stated in an earlier chapter, legislation for the support of schools, and for the support of libraries, presents two fundamental differences: (1) the state is held responsible for

<sup>13</sup> E. D. Sullens, "The Inter-relation of Women's Clubs and Library Work, with Special Reference to Oklahoma" (Unpublished Master's thesis, University of Illinois, 1930), p. 34.

the support of the former, whereas the local government is usually held responsible for the latter; and (2) legislation for the support for schools is mandatory, while that for libraries is permissive. The state must see to it that public schools are supported. This support may be provided by the local unit, by the state itself, or by both. The important fact is that in the state is vested the responsibility for school maintenance. But in the case of libraries, the state permits the local unit to support the library if it desires to do so. If the local unit does not provide support, the state does not usually have to assume responsibility. Michigan, alone, has written a mandatory clause into its constitution concerning the support of libraries.

The influence of the form of legislation, state and local, undoubtedly accounts for much of the success, or lack of success, of library development. The fact that approximately 2,000,000 people outside of municipalities in Illinois are without library service may be due in large measure to the fact that library legislation in Illinois has favored municipal rather than county library development. Charter and legislative provisions bear the impress of municipal rather than county forms. The lack of economic ability and urbanization in certain sections of the state, while contributing to the unfortunate situation, does not account for it satisfactorily. As Mr. Joeckel says:

In common with many other functions of government, the public library suffers from certain obvious difficulties in rendering efficient and complete service to all the people. In the main, these difficulties center about the unit of library service.<sup>14</sup>

The Illinois law follows the line of historical development. It is based upon the conception of library service as a municipal function limited largely to municipal boundaries. Except for such service as has been provided through the Library Extension Division of the Illinois State Library and the Works Progress Administration, the residents of only one Illinois county enjoy the privileges of county-wide library service.

The highly developed system of county libraries in Cali-

<sup>14</sup> Joeckel, *The Government of the American Public Library*, p. 263.

fornia is due, in part, to a body of legislation which makes such service easily possible. Provisions for organization, administration, and support are adequate for the functions proposed; and additional legislation concerning the functions of the state library and provision for library materials for schools have made possible a co-ordination of library resources scarcely to be equaled elsewhere in the country. To somewhat similar legislation the relatively wide coverage of rural areas in Wyoming and New Jersey may be attributed, in part; and in Indiana also, the extensive service provided for rural inhabitants may be due to the rather broad freedom which the state has given to local library boards in permitting them to extend service from municipal libraries to townships and counties. One of the most notable examples of the effect of different forms of legislation in the same communities is that which in England has been afforded by legislation concerning libraries. Prior to 1919, library support was limited to a penny the pound. Following 1919, the penny rate was removed, broad powers were given to boards in control of municipal libraries, and new legislation providing for county service was enacted, which, when coupled with grants-in-aid from the Trustees of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, has made possible the almost complete coverage of England within less than two decades.<sup>15</sup>

A further effect of legislation is revealed when the legislation is accompanied by appropriations for the direct support of library service through state grants. Such legislation has been operative in Ohio during the biennium 1935-37, during which time \$100,000 has been annually available for the improvement and extension of such service. Mr. Noon, in commenting on the effect of this legislation, reports that, whereas in 1935 libraries in only 9 counties were extending book service to all residents, the number has increased in two years to 38, and in 33 other counties libraries were supplying book collections to

<sup>15</sup> Great Britain, Board of Education, Public Libraries Committee, *Report on Public Libraries in England and Wales* (London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1927, reprinted in 1935), pp. 22-23, 203.

rural schools.<sup>16</sup> Ohio has also given another demonstration of the way in which library service is affected by legislation through two provisions which place library support upon taxes derived from intangible property and which make possible extension of service to areas outside municipalities. The former has resulted in a changed basis of support, and the latter, as described above, has contributed to the extension of service to rural areas.

#### TAXATION

The form of taxation upon which library support must rest also affects the extent and effectiveness of that support. Inasmuch as the provision of libraries has usually been considered the function of local governments, real estate and real property have had to bear the principal burden of support. In recent years, these have constituted increasingly unsatisfactory and inadequate bases. Concentration of wealth in major centers and municipalities, as contrasted with surrounding rural areas, and limitation of the use of the revenues produced by such concentrations to those areas in which the wealth is located make adequate support outside of the favored localities practically impossible.

#### SCHOOL AND LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS

Variation in library service has also been largely conditioned by the part which school and library organizations have played in the extension and diffusion of knowledge.

The free public school is one of the distinctive institutions of American life. Approximately twenty-nine million pupils enrol annually in its elementary and secondary departments, and the instruction has become increasingly book- or library-centered. In spite of this fact, however, there has been, as was shown in chapter vi, the greatest diversity in the provision which schools in different states have made for school library support.

<sup>16</sup> P. A. T. Noon, "Ohio's Second Campaign for State Aid," *Library Journal*, LXII (1937), 277-78.

In many instances, the erection of school buildings, the training of teachers, and problems of organization and administration have consumed money and time to the exclusion of library development and support. These, seemingly, have constituted the things that had to come first. Far too frequently the library and the librarian have come—if they have come at all—last. Superintendents, principals, and teachers have concentrated the energies and resources of the schools upon the teaching of reading; but many of them have failed to concentrate upon training their pupils to be permanent readers and upon the development of reading facilities which would make continuation of reading possible. Again, while legislation and departmental regulations are specific as to length of term, number of pupils per teacher, salaries and certification of teachers, curricula, etc., yet specific regulations governing school expenditures for library materials are frequently lacking. And far too often, in instances where financial support for both schools and libraries are necessarily very limited, schools and libraries fail to formulate co-operative arrangements by which the objectives of both might be more effectively and extensively achieved. The recent growth of the adult education movement, with the periods of both formal and informal education extending increasingly upward, has further emphasized the necessity of the closest co-operation between both organizations. Excellent examples of this in many places render failure in other areas only the more unfortunate.

The American public library had no antecedent in European countries. It sprang out of the desire in America for freedom, for equality of educational opportunity, and for democracy. When the idea became firmly established that the school should be free, it followed logically, though a generation later, that the library should likewise be free. The American librarian, individually and collectively, has resolutely stood upon that basis and has developed this special institution on the fundamental assumption that through it freedom, equality of education, opportunity, and preparation for participation in a democratic government might be achieved. The results, after sixty years

of collective activity in the public library field, are that in 1934 6,235 libraries possessed 100,470,215 volumes and spent \$45,-855,400 in making 449,998,845 loans to 26,000,000 borrowers in forty-eight states.

Variation in this service, however, as in that of the library service in school, university, and special libraries, has been influenced by the part which librarians have played, or failed to play. Individual libraries, local library clubs, state library associations and state library agencies, the American Library Association, and other national organizations engaged in various forms of library activity, all have participated in shaping, for good or otherwise, the national library pattern. Too frequently they have stood alone in their effort to advance the library's cause. At other times they have joined forces with like or allied organizations. Frequently they have lost themselves in busy detail; again, they have forgotten detail through broadly comprehensive service. Here, they have been concerned with individuals; there, with groups. Thus, in varied ways, with the schools and other forces which have shaped and influenced the educational status of a people, they have been filling in the details of the reading pattern of the nation and have been aiding in writing the geography of reading in the United States.

## PART IV

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS





## CHAPTER XVI

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

THE purpose of this study, as stated in the Introduction, has been to take inventory of the American public library as an institution of broad social significance. Effort has been made to show how library resources have been provided in the states and regions of the nation, and to what extent libraries have been supported and used. Specifically, the study has undertaken: (1) to indicate the distribution of libraries; (2) to compare this distribution with that of other institutions, organizations, and media for the communication of ideas bearing a more or less direct relationship to library development; (3) to discover, if possible, the causes which have brought about inequalities in the distribution of libraries; (4) to consider the significance to America growing out of the existing inequalities; and (5) to suggest means which may be employed to effect greater equalization of library resources throughout the nation.

The problems of distribution have been demonstrated at length through the tables, maps, summaries, and interpretation of data in Parts I-III. Disparity in the distribution of libraries has been shown to exist not only in the nation as a whole, but within every region, state, county, and local community. Library resources range from the great concentrations in public, university, and governmental libraries to individual volumes that reach the country dweller through parcel post or the bookmobile; and largely outside the borders of thousands of municipalities possessing libraries there are approximately 40,000,000 people to whom public library service has not yet come. In a country which has extended to all of its youth formal educational opportunity on a scale unapproximated elsewhere, and where presses can turn out millions of copies of books and

magazines with amazing rapidity, provision for a fairly even distribution of these media for the transmission of ideas to all of the people has been very unevenly developed. The tragedy of the economic order of inequality between production and distribution is repeated in the realm of books. In the midst of potential plenty there is actual want.

The condition revealed by Part I does not stop, however, with disparity in provision of libraries and books. It is accompanied, as is shown in Part II, by differences in the possession by regions, states, counties, and communities, of the services from schools, adult educational organizations, and other social and cultural institutions and media for the dissemination of ideas—such as bookstores, magazines, daily newspapers, the moving picture, the radio, and the telephone. Where library resources are abundant, these are likewise abundant. “To him that hath” libraries and books, these are likewise added; and conversely, “to him that hath them not,” these others are relatively lacking. In this sense, as several have demonstrated,<sup>1</sup> the library becomes a ready index by which to measure the standard of living, or, as a sensitive thermometer, it serves to register the cultural temperature of many areas of America.

The causes which have contributed to this variation have been shown in Part III to fall into several categories. Some are incident to geographical and topographical conditions; some to the composition, rate of change, and migrations of population; some to the educational status of communities or regions; some to the economic stability of tenant, farmer, miner, and manufacturer who comprise the general social order. All of these causes are somewhat susceptible of measurement, and indices of correlation between them and the status of libraries may be worked out.

Other causes cannot be so treated. They depend upon the

<sup>1</sup> “City Is Ranked Low in Cultural Level,” a report of an address by the Rev. Dr. C. F. Potter, *New York Times*, LXXXVI (October 5, 1936), L-13; Charles Angoff and H. L. Mencken, “Worst American State,” *American Mercury*, XXIV (1931), 1-16, 175-88, 355-71; R. A. Miller, “The Relation of Reading Characteristics to Social Indexes,” *American Journal of Sociology*, XLI (1936), 738-56.

willingness and effort of people to support essential institutions and upon attitudes which are concretely expressive of themselves through co-operation—or its absence—through legislation, through forms of taxation and of governmental organization and administration. The library resources of the city, barring a number of notable exceptions, have not generally crossed the boundaries which separate it from the country. Devotion to the idea of local self-government has, for the most part, prevailed over the state's assumption of its own responsibility for library support.

There are yet other causes which find their expression through philanthropists, through articulate organizations, and, finally, through schools and libraries whose principal concern has been to make Americans a literate and cultured people.

#### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF READING

To two questions which were asked at the outset, no answers have been given, and only the briefest will be attempted here. Possibly it will suffice, in the case of the first, merely to raise the question in the hope that an answer, or many answers, to it may be attempted on a widely extended front. What difference, after all, does it make that library resources are partly, or wholly, lacking in many areas in the nation?

Since the middle of the fifteenth century, the open book in the hand of the individual has become an increasingly common phenomenon. Through the book, knowledge has been conserved and passed on to the next generation. In spite of the tremendous popularity of the radio and the moving picture, print still remains the medium through which these services to mankind can best be rendered. In America, within little more than a century, the public school has been so developed that literacy of all the population has been largely achieved. Hundreds of thousands of teachers have been seeing to this in hundreds of thousands of schoolrooms. Millions of books issue annually from the press, the daily newspaper and magazine are to be

found at every turn, and in 1934, 6,235 libraries circulated 449,998,845 books in America.

But the sociologist, the psychologist, the political scientist, the student of education, and the librarian have only here and there seriously undertaken to determine what the social significance of reading actually is. The children's librarian long ago discovered that children liked to read and that there were certain kinds of books in which they found their greatest satisfaction. The school librarian understands what books are best suited to the adolescent mind and that through the use of the school library many of the school's social as well as intellectual objectives are attained. The college librarian has frequently attributed the failure of new students to pass their first examinations to their limited vocabularies or to their lack of speed in reading. The public librarian daily witnesses the part which books play in carrying on the work of the community in its provision of wholesome recreation, in its enlargement of educational opportunities, and in its effectiveness in the promotion of human readjustment during periods of great depression. The university librarian is aware of the use which the scholar makes of bibliographical apparatus and resources for research in advancing knowledge.

The teacher of art, or literature, knows that if the student is exposed in appropriate ways, and frequently enough, to great pictures or works of literature, the exposure may lead to artistic appreciation. The sociologist studies reading as affecting delinquency, or social adjustment. The political scientist tries to understand how print is used as propaganda. The advertising expert depends upon it to overcome sales resistance or to stimulate buying. The economist and the industrialist are concerned with its effect in shaping the economic concepts of the entire population. The student of character education attempts to determine how what a child reads influences character formation. The student of reading analyzes the interests which lead people to read, the effect of availability of reading materials upon what is read, and the degree to which age,

education, sex, occupation, marital, economic, and social status affect the kind and amount of material read.

But, in spite of all these separate efforts to discover and to understand the social significance of this well-nigh universal phenomenon, a united attack has not yet been made to this end. The statement from Sir Francis Bacon's essay "On Studies," that "reading maketh the full man," still stands as possibly the best generalized answer that has ever been given, although that answer was written more than three centuries ago, and the library of today rests upon the assumption that underlies it.

This study does not attempt to answer how reading makes a "full man" or of what this fullness consists. But it does raise these questions, and over against them sets the major facts with which this study has dealt, and which now face librarians and all other Americans.

If scholars and investigators in certain regions do not possess the research materials essential to the solutions of problems with which the regions are confronted in their agricultural, industrial, and cultural development, the problems upon which they concentrate will correspondingly fail of solution. If 40 per cent of the nation's schools lack school libraries, then many members of the oncoming generation can scarcely be expected to build up those permanent habits of reading and reflective thinking with which they should be equipped to face the future confidently. If 45,000,000 people are largely without public library resources, the efforts of many millions of them to adjust and readjust themselves satisfactorily to a rapidly changing, complex civilization will fall far short of full attainment.

If the drift from rural areas to urban centers, which has characterized American population trends in the past, continues in the future, as it seems it will, America, in replenishing its great metropolitan centers, will draw upon those areas in which reading facilities are least available and where the benefits which flow from reading have been only partly realized. It will draw in part from problem areas, the limitations of which,

in the Baconian sense, keep men from growing "full"—limitations which can only be removed through support of educational and reading facilities derived not only from the areas themselves but from the states and the nation into which the excess population of the problem areas is ultimately drawn.

#### PROPOSED MEASURES

The answer to the final question, "What can be done to provide library resources where they are inadequate or do not exist at all?" has been dealt with indirectly throughout the whole body of the study. Certain measures, however, are so important in affecting further change that they may be lifted out of the preceding chapters and re-emphasized here.

1. The first of these is continued study of the pattern of reading in the United States and of all the influences which give it its present form. A clear understanding of a problem is fundamental to its solution. The general pattern of the facilities for reading outlined in this book and in statistical surveys of the American Library Association, in special studies of state library associations and state planning boards, in surveys of regions such as the Southeast and the Middle West, and of individual states and counties such as Illinois and Westchester County, New York, must be further considered, and those details which are essential to the better understanding of the problem as a whole must be sketched into its design.

2. Progress in the fields of modern science and education has rested largely upon the exact measurement of the results of scientific and educational procedures. When problems have been isolated and defined, all the data possible which bear upon their solution are assembled and carefully applied. One of the great limitations of librarianship, today, is that it lacks a fundamental body of data as well as of special studies which can be compared exactly and applied to the solution of the problems by which it is beset. The American Library Association, the state library agencies, and the Library Service Division of the U.S. Office of Education should collaborate in securing such

data, and the advanced library schools and allied university departments should co-ordinate their efforts to perfect measurements by which library service may be refined and better adjusted to social purposes which the library has been established to promote. The determination of the social significance of reading might well be one of the problems on which such groups of students might make a combined attack.

3. The part which the publisher and bookseller should play may likewise be suggested. Their attempt to discover what constitutes the readable book for that part of the population whose reading ability is somewhat limited, to distribute books that fall below a certain cost, and to experiment in discovering new sales opportunities seem timid when contrasted with the methods which other forms of industry and business employ in overcoming obstacles. Cooperative study of reading and its effects and bold experimentation on the part of publishers and booksellers might go far toward increasing the volume and profit of their business, and at the same time might contribute to the development of a wider, better informed, total reading public.

4. It is essential that this kind of study shall be followed by constructive planning such as has been projected by library organizations in forty-five states, and that the plans adopted shall utilize all pertinent information available. As the Wilson and Wight study of service by southern county libraries pointed out, the librarians of the Southeast, at their meetings in 1926 and later, outlined a plan which has contributed greatly to the development of libraries in that region, in spite of the difficulties which it has been shown in preceding chapters attend upon library extension there. In general, these plans called for: (a) the establishment in the region of additional library schools for the training of a competent library personnel; (b) the formulation by the accrediting agency of southern high schools and colleges of library standards for their membership; (c) the demonstration of effective county-wide library service through a number of strategically located demonstration libraries; (d) the appointment of school library supervisors in state



departments of education; (e) the description of the resources for research held by libraries in the region; (f) co-operation with other professional organizations, civic bodies, and educational foundations in promoting library extension; and (g) the appointment of a policy committee which should continuously concern itself with the major library problems of the region as a whole.<sup>2</sup> Plans of this character, based upon the known needs of a city, county, state, or region, if steadily developed by all the interested groups suggested, will ultimately find expression in constructive accomplishment.

5. Once plans have been formulated, it is imperative that they be written into effective laws which will insure the attainment of the objectives desired—laws which embrace the principles of co-operation and of county, regional, or state service as contrasted with those laws which place excessive emphasis upon service within unduly narrow political boundaries. Among the provisions which such general public library laws should contain are:

- a) A strong state library agency with broad responsibilities for fostering library development in the state, co-ordinating the activities of all related agencies in so far as they involve library service, rendering specialized library service to other governmental departments, and administering state and federal aid for surveys, extension, and support;
- b) State certification of professional library workers under a system of graded service;
- c) Authority to local governments for the establishment and support of libraries with provisions for service by contract, or by the combination of counties, or other units, into a regional system; and
- d) Financial aid from the state for the support of local, regional, or other library service essential to the economic, social, and cultural well-being of all the residents of the state.<sup>3</sup>

6. The point at which the library movement in the United States has been least successful is that at which it has undertaken to extend library service into predominantly rural farm areas. It is exactly in that place that the school and the church

<sup>2</sup> L. R. Wilson and E. A. Wight, *County Library Service in the South* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935), pp. 20, 22.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 205–6.

have experienced their greatest difficulties. The library, the school, the church are confronted alike with aspects of the same problem. Their efforts to solve it singly have been generally unavailing. It is only when it is attacked jointly, as it is in some states where the county library has been developed, that the results are satisfactory. It is important, therefore, for these institutions to make a common attack on the problem with the co-operation of the county and state health and education officers, the county, state, and federal farm and home demonstration agents, the rural sociology and extension departments of the land-grant colleges and universities, and the farm, adult education, and civic organizations interested in the enrichment of rural life. Altogether they constitute a group whose potential total service to rural America has been as yet only dimly visualized.

7. The development of the American school system has been phenomenal. Phenomenal, also, has been the development of library service to the school. But of the two, the development of library service to the school, either directly or through contractual arrangement with the public library, has been the less satisfactory. Boards of education and school administrators in the United States have provided in their budgets for salaries, laboratory equipment, and other operating expenses, but, by and large, they have failed to provide in the same way for library service. Now that library materials play an indispensable part in modern education, that high school instruction involves 60 to 75 per cent of the high school population, and that the public school and the public library are being involved in supporting a growing program of adult education, this improvident and unintelligent procedure should be replaced by an adequately supported plan which will contribute to the training of a permanent, discriminating reading public in America.

8. The card, bibliographical, and interlibrary services of the Library of Congress, and of other libraries of the federal government, have been of such great importance to scholars and in-

vestigators in every part of the nation that generous provision should be made for their extension and support. These resources, so essential to the solution of problems inhering in the agricultural, industrial, and cultural development of America, should be developed in such a manner and to such a degree as to reduce the great inequalities now limiting the effectiveness of research in many areas.

9. The final measure proposed is the assumption by the state of responsibility for library as well as for school service, with aid from the federal government appropriately safeguarded. Variation in economic ability, the shift in the point at which taxes are collected, the trend of cities to recruit themselves from rural areas, the fact that the United States is a democracy and that its stability rests upon the intelligence and understanding of all its people—these facts lead to the conviction that if equalization of library resources is to be achieved, it can best be done through state and federal participation rather than through complete dependence upon local support. Unless support is provided in this fashion, the geography of reading in the United States will continue to show areas in which the transmission and cross fertilization of ideas, so dependent upon the distribution of print, cannot be effectively achieved.

10. Implicit in the foregoing recommendations is the responsibility placed upon American librarians so to readjust their organization and administration, to restudy and develop their book resources and equipment, and to reorient and inspire their personnel that they will take full advantage of the opportunity which an America of readers holds out before them.

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